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Couple's big win on lottery
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Thursday, November 10 - Wednesday, November 16, 2016 Advertising/Newsdesk: 01235 511700 www.oxfordshireguardian.co.uk

Young & Strange conjure up a top trick

Magical pair enjoy a spell on TV show

By George Welch

IT was a weekend to remember for a pair of Oxfordshire magicians who dazzled millions of viewers on national television.

Known collectively as Young & Strange, magicmen and childhood friends Sam Strange, 31, and Richard Young, 32, appeared on the first round of ITV's The Next Great Magician on Sunday.

The programme showcases a combination of some of the world's best magicians who perform their best material in the hope of picking up a television special as a prize.

• Sam Strange and Richard Young

Despite crashing out of the show at the first hurdle, the pair, who have lived and performed in and around the Oxfordshire area all their lives, displayed their tricks and illusions on Sunday, the first of a six-part series to find the world's best magician.

Sam grew up in Stanton Harcourt, near Eynsham, and now lives in Chipping Norton, while Richard grew up in Cowley and now lives in Carterton.

Sam said they were 'fortunate' to have been approached by the producer of the new programme, who is behind other magic shows including Derren Brown TV specials.

The duo jumped at the chance to appear on the TV show and Sam said the experience was "very enjoyable" and "an interesting process".

He has been a magician since he was 14 and his partnership with Richard began when they were children.

Sam said: "I've known Rich since we were kids and we grew up learning magic together and that infectious enthusiasm towards magic has helped us unite our friendship."

After spending lots of time together through their shared passion of magic, the pair formed Young and Strange in their late teens.

He added: "We were both inspiring each other to learn, it wasn't until we realised that you could make a living as a magician towards the end of our teenage years when we surrounded ourselves with other people who were making livings from performing magic."

Performing together for over a decade, they have clocked up around 500 shows, including local performances and shows further afield at events such

• Continues on page 3

• Magicians Sam Strange and Richard Young have performed around 500 shows

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Three barracks in county to be sold off by the MoD

By George Welch

THREE Army barracks across Oxfordshire will be sold off after the Ministry of Defence (MoD) announced their intentions to sell 56 sites across the UK.

Dalton Barracks in Abingdon, Vauxhall Barracks in Didcot and St David's Barracks in Bicester were all named in the proposals, which were presented to Parliament by Defence Secretary Michael Fallon on Monday.

The move will see the potential closure of 56 sites across the UK by 2040 in a move that hopes to save the MoD a total of £140m and open up enough space to build 55,000 homes.

Defence secretary Sir Michael Fallon said: "We have been spending billions maintaining a defence estate that doesn't meet the needs of our Armed Forces.

"This plan delivers an estate fit for our forces and their families.

"By putting money where it is needed, we will provide better facilities to train our Armed Forces and deliver more stability for military families."

As part of the proposals, seven Oxfordshire regiments would be impacted.

Four of them are based at Dalton Barracks and Abingdon Airfield, which is earmarked for closure by 2029.

Two regiments from Vauxhall Barracks will be closed by 2028 and will be moved to MoD Kineton, near Warwick.

The seventh regiment to be lost in Oxfordshire will be St David's Barracks in Bicester where the 1 Regiment Royal Logistic Corps will be closed by 2028.

A statement from the MoD said the changes would "reduce the number of personnel being regularly moved between different bases, providing greater long-term stability and certainty for our Armed Forces and their families".

Sir Michael said the sale of the sites was in addition to the sale of 35 MoD sites that had previously been announced.

The review, headed up by military leaders to deliver a 'more efficient, modern and capability-focused defence estate', is the country's most significant update to defence land since the Second World War.

A total of 91 sites owned or managed by the MoD are set to be sold including Woolwich Station in London.

Every penny raised from the sales will be reinvested back into defence, creating areas of military expertise in specific locations around the country, the MoD said.

Didcot's MP Ed Vaizey said: "The changes announced are planned over a long period of time, and I will obviously make sure my constituents' concerns are known.

"As taxpayers, we should support the MoD's efforts to get value for money, and also the opportunity long-term to use land for much-needed affordable housing, but it is vital we do not lose our connection with the regiments that have played such a key role in the life of Didcot and Abingdon."

Once more, an A34 crash wreaks havoc on Oxfordshire's roads...

• *The crash on the A34 (Both pictures courtesy of @ThamesVP*

ANOTHER crash on the A34 caused havoc across Oxfordshire on Monday after a lorry ploughed into the back of another, causing two injuries and forcing the road to close for nearly 12 hours.

The crash, which happened at about 12.30pm between the A4130 near Didcot and the A415 at Milton, left one driver with minor injuries and the other with serious leg injuries.

They were both taken to the John Radcliffe Hospital for treatment.

Severe delays ensued as the A34 was closed from early afternoon until just after midnight the next day.

Highways England confirmed the road was reopened at 12.40am on Tuesday after a 'complicated recovery' that was not complete until 11pm on Monday before road repairs were carried out.

Police confirmed that specialist equipment was used to remove the 27 ton load on one of the lorries, spewing debris and spillage across the road.

According to Newbury MP Richard Benyon, who is campaigning alongside Oxfordshire MPs Ed Vaizey and Nicola Blackwood to improve the safety of the road, there have been 2,040 incidents on the A34 in the previous 22 years, as of the end of October this year.

A date has been set for the group of MPs to discuss the safety of the A34 after they secured a safety review into the road, which will be carried out by Highways England.

The MPs will meet the minister for roads, John Hayes on November 22 for further discussion into what measures can be taken to improve safety.

Have your say online

Rail electrification 'delayed until further notice'

THE planned electrification of the railway between Oxford and Didcot is 'delayed until further notice', the Government has confirmed.

The link is one of four electrification schemes to be postponed indefinitely, which are all part of a £2.8bn National Rail–led project to electrify the Great Western route.

Rail minister Paul Maynard said deferring the electrification of some routes would free up between £146m and £165m, which would be used to "deliver additional benefits to passengers".

Mr Maynard added that the benefits expected by passengers, including newer and quicker trains with more capacity, could still be achieved without requiring costly and disruptive electrification works.

He added: "This decision underscores the Government's approach to wider rail investment; passenger outcomes must be delivered while achieving the best value from every pound spent."

Great Western Railway (GWR) still expects to deliver its programme of customer improvements by 2019, following Network Rail's deferral.

A GWR spokesman said that, although customers will be disappointed, they have made 'significant progress' towards improvements.

Stephen Joseph, chief executive of Campaign for Better Transport, said passengers have been let down.

He said: "In uncertain times for the economy we need investment in infrastructure and delays or cancellations are not helpful. It's not fair to tell passengers to expect big improvements in services and at the last minute decide you're not going to deliver them. "

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Couple to give arts groups a boost and buy a narrowboat

Winners splash the cash

By George Welch

AN AVID supporter of local arts from Botley who won £1m on the lottery is to use some of her winnings to support theatre groups in Abingdon and Didcot.

The lucky lady, 58-year-old Pam Aird, who will be sharing the win with her partner, 60-year-old Alick Alder, won the UK Millionaire Maker on October 25's Euromillions draw.

Ms Aird, who is currently not working due to ill health, had been to visit her doctor when she decided to stop in at a nearby newsagents in Botley to pick up a Lucky Dip ticket for that night's EuroMillions draw.

The day after her win was confirmed, she went to watch a stage production where she said it "suddenly hit me that I was a millionaire".

She added: "It was a magical experience on all counts."

And now she has collected her winnings, the music-loving couple have promised to light up Oxfordshire theatre stages.

Ms Aird's first thought was to help out some of the drama groups and venues she holds so close to her heart, she said.

She added: "I have an absolute passion for theatre and drama.

"My first thought when I won was to upgrade the lighting rig at the Unicorn Theatre in Abingdon, and provide head mics for the Didcot Phoenix Theatre and Synergy Group so our members can give their best possible performance for their audiences."

Speaking of the moment when she realised she had won the life-changing money, she said: "I just couldn't believe it, I thought my eyes were playing tricks on me.

"All night I was tossing and turning, I couldn't stop thinking about all the things I'd always wanted to do for friends and the local community and now can."

• *Alick Alder and Pam Aird toast their £1m Euromillions lottery win*

Ms Aird's health issues have meant that life has not always been easy but she's now hoping that this win will be able to make the future for her, Mr Alder and those around them, so much brighter.

She said: "Already I have put wheels in motion to pay off debts that I have carried around for too many years and finally make a clean start.

"Putting things right and helping the local arts in Oxfordshire are the two priorities but I'd be lying if I didn't say the win will also make a difference to how Alick and I enjoy life."

The pair are now on the hunt for a narrowboat so they can enjoy Cropredy Festival – their favourite musical festival – in style.

They also want a house in Abingdon with it's own berth so they can moor outside their backdoor.

Magical pair conjure up a spell on national TV programme

• *From front page*

as the Edinburgh Fringe where they have performed for the past four years.

Strange & Young, who are both members of the Magic Circle and have been involved in magic clubs for a long time, draw their inspiration from stage illusions.

As such, David Copperfield, who is considered the master of stage illusions after he 'flew' around the stage in a show in 1992, is the duo's main inspiration.

Also motivated by fellow magicians Lance Burton and Dynamo, Sam said: "Anybody who is original and tries to take the art form of magic forward always gains our respect."

Sunday's TV appearance is not the first time they have appeared on our screens as they have previously appeared on the ITV1 show Penn & Teller: Fool Us, hosted then by Jonathan Ross and now on Channel 5.

The best friends are also known for a viral video they uploaded when they video bombed a live Sky News broadcast last year, which has nearly 5.7m views on YouTube.

Despite not making it through to the next round of The Next Great Magician, the duo plan is to carry on touring and trying to gain as much stage time as possible to develop their act.

Young & Strange are to tour in the spring as part of their Champions of Magic show, which they have enjoyed for the last couple of years.

News Bites

MP's PMQ debut

WITNEY: Witney's new MP has asked his first PMQ as Prime Minister Theresa May welcomed him into parliament.

Robert Courts made his first enquiry in the House of Commons, namechecking Chipping Norton's shortlisting in the Great British High Street Awards and asking about protections for high streets in market towns.

Mrs May responded by saying she used to spend her pocket money in Chipping Norton shops.

Bird's nest fire

OVER NORTON: Fire crews extinguished a chimney fire in Over Norton last week.

Crews were called at 9.50pm on Tuesday last week to the incident where a bird's nest had caught fire.

Oxfordshire County Council Fire and Rescue Service has reminded chimney owners to sweep them regularly.

Charity race night

WITNEY: St Mary's Church in Witney is to hold its first race night to raise money for the African Children's Fund.

The Oxfordshire-based charity is to host the event, which will involve people betting on the outcome of a six horse race, on November 25.

Tickets are £10 and include entry and a hot supper.

Doors open at 7pm with the first race scheduled for 7:30pm. Over 18s only.

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Women attack taxi driver and take his vehicle

POLICE are appealing for witnesses after two women forced a taxi driver out of his car in Horspath and drove off.

It happened at about 2.40am on October 22 at the Cuddesdon Road junction of Ladder Hill when the victim, a 34-year-old man, picked up two women in his taxi.

They threatened and assaulted him before forcing him out of the car and driving off towards Cuddesdon and Garsington.

The taxi, a Toyota Prius Hybrid, was later found abandoned in Beech Road, Wheatley, with two mobile phones having been stolen from it.

The victim was not injured in the robbery.

The first woman was in her 20s, with brown shoulder-length straight hair and was wearing a hooded jacket and trousers, while the second woman was in her 40s, wearing a jumper and jeans.

PC Christopher Gibson said: "I am encouraging anyone who has any information about this incident, who recognises the description of the two women, or has seen anyone acting suspiciously around the area to get in touch."

Call the police non-emergency number 101 with information, or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

Siblings join stars at London charity gala

By George Welch

OXFORD siblings were joined by celebrity A-listers at a London Gala to celebrate a charity supporting children with serious health issues.

Brother and sister Ace and Sky Manthey from Oxford joined the star-studded line-up at London's Roundhouse on Thursday evening for the charity Over The Wall.

Eleven-year-old Ace and Sky, 14, were joined on the stage by celebrities, including actor Jude Law, Game of Thrones' Aidan Gillen and presenter Natalie Pinkham.

At the gala, the siblings took to the stage for multiple musical performances, including a rendition of Miley Cyrus's 'The Climb' and Katy Perry's 'Firework', all in the name of charity.

Founded by actor and philanthropist Paul Newman, SeriousFun Children's Network is a global community of 30 camps and programmes to support children with serious illnesses and their families.

Over The Wall is the UK member of SeriousFun and hosts camps across the UK for children and their families to attend together. In 2016, it hosted 13 camps.

Father to Ace and Sky, Ian-Manthey, paid a moving tribute to the work of SeriousFun and Over the Wall, speaking of the amazing personal impact the charity had made on their lives.

Both Ace and Sky have attended camps following Ace's diagnosis of acute lymphoblastic leukaemia, a rare cancer of the white blood cells, when he was just three years old.

It was whilst Ace was getting chemotherapy at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, that Mr Manthey heard about Over The Wall and Sky was given a place on a sibling camp.

Mr Manthey said: "Sky was shy and reluctant to go but she was transformed at camp. Before she wasn't very confident, but afterwards she was taking the lead in school plays."

The positive impact on Sky led Mr Manthey to apply to get Ace, now in remission, into camp once he reached eight, the minimum age to attend.

Speaking of Ace's experience at the camp, Mr Manthey said: "He had the best time of his life. He asked if he could go on another camp straightaway.

• Sky (far left) and Ace (third from left) at the gala (picture courtesy of Inhouse Photography)

"There is a picture of him holding a bow and arrow. He has jeans on and mud on his face. Anyone looking at that picture would just see a kid who is happy, but to me I saw that was the first real smile on Ace I had ever seen. He had a real proper smile."

Ace said: "I really enjoyed my time at the camp and met some lovely people."

Of the gala, Sky said: 'That was amazing! I've really enjoyed being part of this event and helping to spread the word about the camps."

Clea Newman, director of special initiatives for SeriousFun and Mr Newman's youngest daughter, said: "Ace, Sky and all the campers involved made it an evening to remember."

News Bites

Rape bid charge

OXFORD: A 52-year-old man has been charged with historical sex offences including the attempted rape of a woman 30 years ago.

Philip Spriggs, who used to live in Oxford, is accused of pulling his victim to the ground in Pullens Lane, threatening her with violence and attempting to rape her on the evening of January 30, 1986, before fleeing the scene.

Spriggs, who was arrested and charged with one count of attempted rape on October 19, appeared at Oxford Magistrates Court on Tuesday and is set to appear at Oxford Crown Court on December 2.

Despite an investigation at the time, police said no previous arrests had been made.

Gritters go out

OXON: Gritter lorries took to Oxfordshire roads for the first time this autumn as temperatures plummeted below freezing on Monday night.

Oxfordshire has seen increasing levels of fog, ice and frost as the Met Office warned it could be the county's coldest winter in 35 years.

Temperatures in Oxford dropped to -4C on Tuesday.

Oxfordshire County Council and the emergency services have urged drivers to take extra care on the roads.

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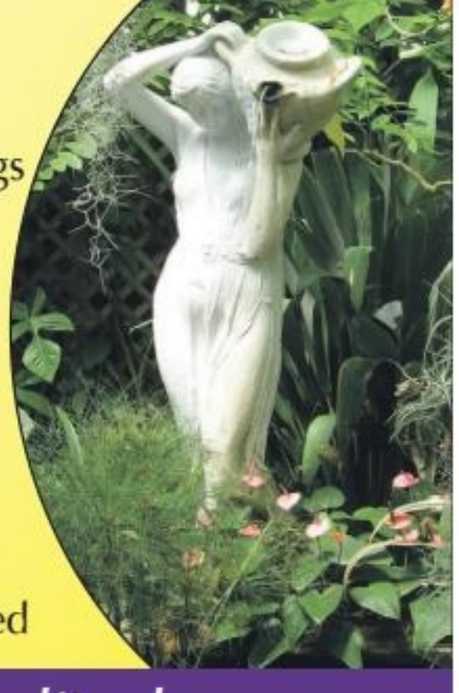

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Electric self-drive truck is unveiled

By George Welch

AN OXFORDSHIRE-BASED firm has unveiled a self-drive electric delivery van that can be built in only four hours.

Oxford-based Charge Automotive, which unveiled the van at the Wired 2016 conference in London last week, plans to have its driverless vehicles up for sale next year.

The firm said the vehicles would be "autonomous-ready" for when self-drive legislation was in place.

The Government wants to see self-drive cars on the roads by 2020 and the trucks will meet new EV legislation globally, including Mayor of London Sadiq Khan's new "Direct Vision Standard" for lorries, helping to make London's streets 'significantly safer for pedestrians and cyclists'.

Charge plans to open a factory in Oxfordshire next year with a team of 10 working over two shifts a day to assemble 10,000 trucks in the first year.

It will take one person only four hours to build a complete Charge truck.

The Charge trucks also produce zero emissions for the first 100 miles they travel - and for longer journeys a dual mode can be used to 'top up' the battery, extending the range to 500 miles.

• *Charge Automotive has unveiled a driverless electric delivery vehicle*

The vehicles will be built using ultra-lightweight composite materials that significantly reduce the weight of the vehicle, Charge said.

Charge plans to develop trucks in a range of sizes from 3.5 to 26 tonnes and is in talks with the major truck fleet firms.

The first of many proposed new factories will open in 2017 near their current HQ in Oxford, where the first trucks were designed and built.

Charge's CEO Denis Sverdlov said: "We find trucks today totally unacceptable.

"At Charge, we are making trucks the way they should be – affordable, elegant, quiet, clean and safe.

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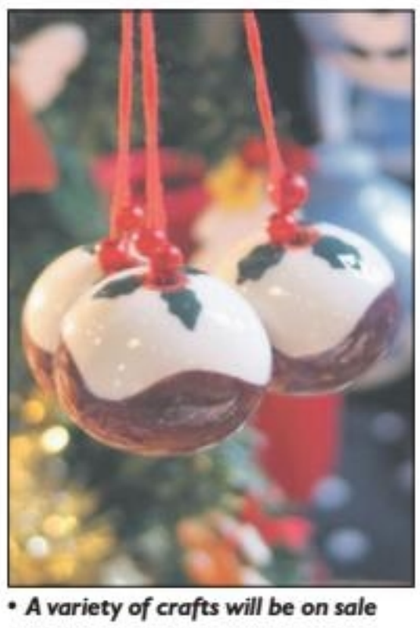
The company is also working closely with Roborace – the world's first driverless electric racing series.

Palace to host Christmas crafts fair



• *A variety of crafts will be on sale*

THE grounds of Blenheim Palace at Woodstock will host a Christmas crafts fair to help people soak up the festive atmosphere while choosing gifts for all the family.

From Thursday, November 17, to Sunday, November 20, the stately home will welcome more than 160 designer-makers from across the UK to set out their stalls.

High quality, contemporary British craftsmanship and original designs will be on display at the Living Crafts events.

From simple stocking fillers to special commissions, studio glass, art, millinery, designer fashions, toys, handmade soaps, candles and ceramics, a wide variety of gifts will be on offer.

New for this year, visitors will be welcomed by Crafts in Action in the East Courtyard, where they can see demonstrations.

The Great Court will be transformed into a magical wonderland with twinkling Christmas trees in the colonnades. The event will take place in heated and carpeted pavilions and a feast of warming food and drink will be available including winter Pimms, roasted chestnuts and hot chocolate.

Shoppers will be entertained by festive street theatre and carols played by a brass band.

The palace will be dressed for the season and features an exhibition of work by Italian artist Michaelangelo Pistoletto in the state rooms.

News Bites

Car theft arrests

VALE: Two men were arrested in connection with thefts from motor vehicles in Vale of White Horse.

A 42-year-old, of no fixed abode, and a 25-year-old, of Havant, Hampshire, were held on Thursday on suspicion of theft from a vehicle. They were arrested after thefts the same day.

Vehicles were broken into in a layby between Blowingstone Hill and Lambourn and in car parks at Sparsholt Firs and White Horse Hill, near Uffington. They were also arrested in connection with incidents on October 30 at Ashbury Ridgeway crossroads and Grove Park Drive, near Ardington. Both were bailed until January 14.

Death driver jailed

OXON: Police say a lorry driver's tiredness 'probably' caused the death of a woman and her dog in a crash on the A34 last year.

Diana Allan, 75, of Upper Dean, Huntingdon, died instantly, as did her dog, when a lorry hit her Nissan Note at 3.30pm on July 12.

Claudiu Almasan, 46, of Leighton Buzzard Road, Hemel Hempstead, who admitted causing death by dangerous driving, was sentenced to two years and eight months in jail at Oxford Crown Court last Thursday. He was also disqualified from driving for five years and four months.

• *Claudiu Almasan*

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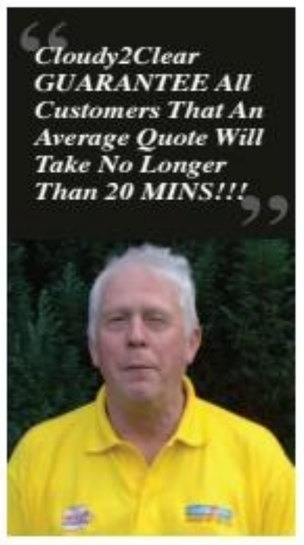

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New schools boss named

• Melinda Tilley

• Steve Harrod

A NEW schools chief has been appointed by Oxfordshire County Council to help provide services to the counties' children.

Councillor Steve Harrod, who represents Chalgrove and Watlington ward, will take on the education responsibilities on the county council's cabinet from councillor Melinda Tilley.

Cllr Tilley will remain on the cabinet to continue with her other existing responsibilities, which include children's social care and safeguarding.

The council said the change has happened because of a changing educational landscape.

Around 80 per cent of secondary schools and 30 per cent of primary schools in Oxfordshire are now academies and therefore independent of council control.

Council leader Ian Hudspeth said: "We may not be the provider of education we once were, but there is clearly an important, emerging role for the county council to be the champion of children and families, and to provide both challenge and support to all schools, especially where children are not receiving the good standard of education they deserve."

He added: "I'm delighted to welcome Cllr Harrod into the Cabinet and would also like to pay tribute to the recent work of Cllr Tilley, who has overseen some significant achievements in improving educational outcomes in Oxfordshire."

Cllr Harrod, who has been a district councillor since 2011 and a parish councillor since 2005, said: "I'm really looking forward to taking on this new role at what is a very exciting and challenging time in education, both nationally and locally.

Cheating husband led wife to set up agency

Team of experts use detective skills to crack cases

By Alex Izsatt

WHEN you think of detective agencies you think of Dick Tracey, dark hallways and silhouettes down alleyways.

But the Lady Detective Agency, which is opening its new office in Oxford, is far from shady and behind closed doors - it has a 99 per cent success rate in helping its clients.

It's not all murders and crimes either, as owner Rebecca Jane says every day is different for her detectives, and for the last seven-and-a-half years they have helped both men and women with fraud, missing people, background and infidelity checks, and monitoring.

• Rebecca Jane has helped solve all manner of cases

Having spent years as a property expert, Rebecca and her friends became detectives after she thought her first husband was cheating on her - she did not know where to turn, and her friends offered.

Unfortunately, what they found was not a happy ending, as her suspicions turned out to be correct and he was having not one affair, but six.

It was the first case of many and since then she has built up a strong team of women who help others.

And what has she learnt; "never to judge a book by it's cover, I quickly learnt not to underestimate what people are feeling".

Some of her cases in Oxford have been emotionally draining.

She said: "We get a lot of cases, one recent one was regarding a stolen identity. A man was cat-fishing hundreds of women, building relationships with them using a fake personality and a fake picture, all for graphic images.

"It was a tough case, not because we had to confront him, but because of all the women who we met whose confidence has been shattered."

The agency's Oxford office is nearly up and running, and will be for corporate work; court cases, mediation and tracking.

The team at the agency is full-time, with expertise in all sorts of training.

News Bites

Best councillor

OXFORD: Oxford City Council's deputy leader Ed Turner has been named District Councillor of the Year at the Local Government Information Unit (LGiU) Councillor Achievement awards at the Guildhall's Livery Hall in London last week.

He won for being "a committed advocate for his constituents and bringing about positive change in his community".

Royal visit honour

OXFORD: An Oxford business will receive a royal visit to honour the firm with their third major accolade.

The Queen's cousin, His Royal Highness The Duke of Gloucester, will visit Seacourt environmental printers on November 15 to present their third Queens Award – the highest accolade a business can be recognised with in the UK.

Best place to eat

OXON: A restaurant owner 'nearly fell off his seat' when his eatery was awarded a top accolade.

The Baskerville, of Station Road in Henley, picked up the 2016 Oxfordshire Restaurant of the Year last week. Kevin Hannah said: "I nearly fell off my seat. I thought we might be in with a chance to win our category, but not the top award."

News Bites

Knifepoint robbery

OXFORD: A 23-year-old man was robbed at knifepoint in Cowley on Tuesday last week.

The victim was walking between Holloway Road and Crescent Road at 9.30pm when he was approached by a man from behind and threatened with a knife.

The thief stole the victim's mobile phone and wallet, before leaving on a silver bike towards The Slade.

The victim escaped without being injured.

The offender is described as white, in his 30s, with dark hair and a beard. He is 5ft 6ins and of a skinny build. He was wearing a black beanie hat, a burgundy sports top with long sleeves and black tracksuit bottoms.

Contact police on 101.

Emma's fortune

OXFORD: Former Headington School pupil Emma Watson is among Heat magazine's richest celebrities under 30.

The Harry Potter actress comes in at number six in the list with a fortune of £35million.

The chart is topped by singer Adele, whose net worth is £92million with Watson's Potter co-star Daniel Radcliffe second with £74million.

Heat looked at endorsement deals, TV contracts, movie profits and record sales to determine their wealth.

Children's centres offered a lifeline

By George Welch

A LIFELINE has been handed to under-threat children's centres in Oxfordshire offering hope to the thousands who use them.

Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) agreed at a meeting on Tuesday last week to waive rents for those centres facing closure.

The county council is proposing to shut Oxfordshire's 44 children's centres and seven early intervention hubs to replace them with eight larger 'children and family centres'.

The reorganised service will cost £12 million a year, cutting £6m from the council's budget.

County councillors voted overwhelmingly to waive rental charges if it would ensure the survival of a centre that would otherwise be forced to close.

Iffley Fields city councillor David Williams put forward the motion to help the centres.

He said: "[The] security of accommodation will be a vital factor in bidding for external funding in that it signals continuity of existence and will be the one contribution the county could make to keep the maximum number of centres open if the future is to be built on external funding for activity based projects at each centre."

Abingdon town councillor Samantha Bowring has been fighting to save the centre in South Abingdon.

She has welcomed the move, saying OCC's decision has given centres across the county renewed hope, although there is still a long way to go.

She added: "It may make it [keeping centres open] now viable because we had hit the point where I don't think there was any way forward. If we hadn't had this news I think that would have been the end of the line.

• *Campaigners against children's centres closures make their feelings known at a protest march*

"It means there is still a possibility [to keep centres, including South Abingdon, open]."

But Wallingford town mayor Ros Lester is concerned waiving the rent does not go far enough to help the centre in her town.

She said: "I still cannot be certain that Wallingford can be saved. I think Wallingford still may have to go over to Didcot with Didcot being the hub, which would mean the rent wouldn't make any difference [to the Wallingford centre].

But the Wallingford town councillor still welcomed the decision, adding: "Absolutely anything they can put in will help someone."

The 44 centres are due to continue running until March.

• *Katrina Percy*

• *New interim chair Alan Yates*

• *Connor Sparrowhawk*

Review into Southern Health trust

THE newly-appointed interim chairman of the heavily criticised Southern Health NHS Trust will lead a review of the Trust's clinical services.

In June, the trust accepted responsibility for the death of Connor Sparrowhawk, 18, who drowned in a bath in Oxford.

A report also found it had failed to properly investigate the deaths of more than 1,000 people in its care.

Alan Yates, who was appointed interim chair of the trust on Thursday last week, will head a major investigation into the running of the organisation.

Mr Yates has a 36-year track record of leading NHS providers of mental health and community services and has been working closely with the trust as improvement director since April.

The review, called the Clinical Services Strategy, will consider how the services need to be improved in the future to meet the needs of their clients.

The trust is working with people who use their services, families and staff to ensure a range of views and ideas are heard.

Julie Dawes, interim chief executive of the trust, welcomed the appointment. She said: "His [Alan Yates] expertise has been most welcome. A new strategy, based on the findings of this review will set out how our services and our organisation should be configured to best meet the needs of the people we serve."

The report is due to be published in February.

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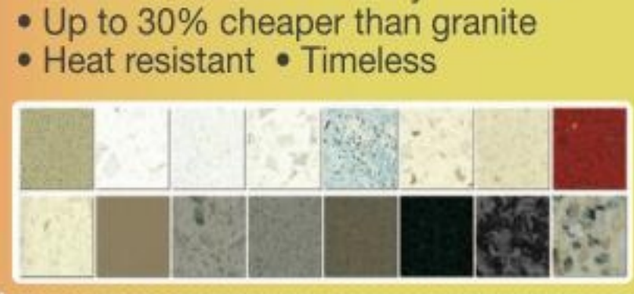

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Courage of young rear gunner

By Katriona Ormiston

IT was with a mixture of excitement and horror that 15-year-old Denis Eynstone sat in a field on the edge of Oxford watching aerial dog fights between British and German pilots in 1940, at the beginning of the Second World War.

Three years later he became rear gunner and youngest member of a Lancaster bomber crew piloted by William Mallon, which flew missions over Germany.

Their experiences, both harrowing and uplifting, have been pieced together by the son of flight engineer Robert Jay and compiled into a new book called The Mallon Crew.

Out now ahead of Remembrance Sunday, author Vic Jay traces the crew's stories during the war and how they unfolded 70 years later.

Mr Jay, 69, from Lincolnshire, said: "I found all these amazing tales and tragedies. There were these awful stories even though the crew actually survived.

"Denis's was one of the most fascinating because he was so young, 19, and as a boy in Oxford he used to watch the Germans and British fighting overhead and made little drawings of the planes."

Mr Jay, a retired biology teacher, managed to track down Mr Eynstone's daughter Wendy Edson and helped her find out more about what he did during and after the war.

Rear gunners, known as 'tail-end Charlie', acted as lookouts to warn their pilot of any threats and defended the plane from enemy fighters using his four Browning 303 inch machine guns.

Mr Eynstone, who was born in Headington in 1925 and went to St Andrew's School, would have squeezed into the tiny rear turret to fly backwards for up to eight-and-a-half hours at temperatures that could plummet to -40 degrees Celsius at 20,000 feet.

The life expectancy of a rear gunner was estimated earlier in the war as two weeks, or five operations.

Ms Edson, who now lives in Nottingham with two sons, said: "I admire the courage it must have taken for a young man of 19 to subject himself to the terror, freezing temperatures and loneliness of being tail-end Charlie.

"With only his thoughts to occupy him, knowing he was a sitting duck, that his luck could run out at any minute and that his survival was dependent largely on his colleagues and God, he must have gone through a type of living hell every mission."

The Mallon Crew, based at RAF Mepal in Cambridgeshire, was one of the few crews which survived the war. Mr Eynstone re-enlisted in the RAF. While with No. 25 Squadron a bomb became frozen to its mounting and the pilot ordered Mr Eynstone to kick it free.

After a fiery argument during which Mr Eynstone suggested an alternative – that the plane should fly lower - he was proven correct when the bomb thawed out and fell into the sea.

After leaving the RAF he became a fitter at the pressed steel car plant in Oxford.

He was a keen footballer and played for the Quarry Nomads, now called Oxford City Nomads, and enjoyed dancing at the Oxford Palais dance hall with his friends and family, where he and his mum excelled at the jitterbug, a dance popular in the 1940s.

Mr Eynstone moved to Devon on retiring in 1987. He died aged 86 in 2011.

• *Denis Eynstone and some of the drawings he made as he watched the planes from a field in Oxford*

Author shares father's tale

TAXIING the runway on board a Lancaster bomber in Lincolnshire four years ago sparked Vic Jay's curiosity about his father's role in the Second World War.

Robert Jay had been a flight engineer with the Mallon crew, so called because their Lancaster bomber was piloted by Flight Sergeant William Mallon.

The New Zealand squadron had four Kiwis and three Brits. One of these Brits was Oxford teenager Denis Eynstone.

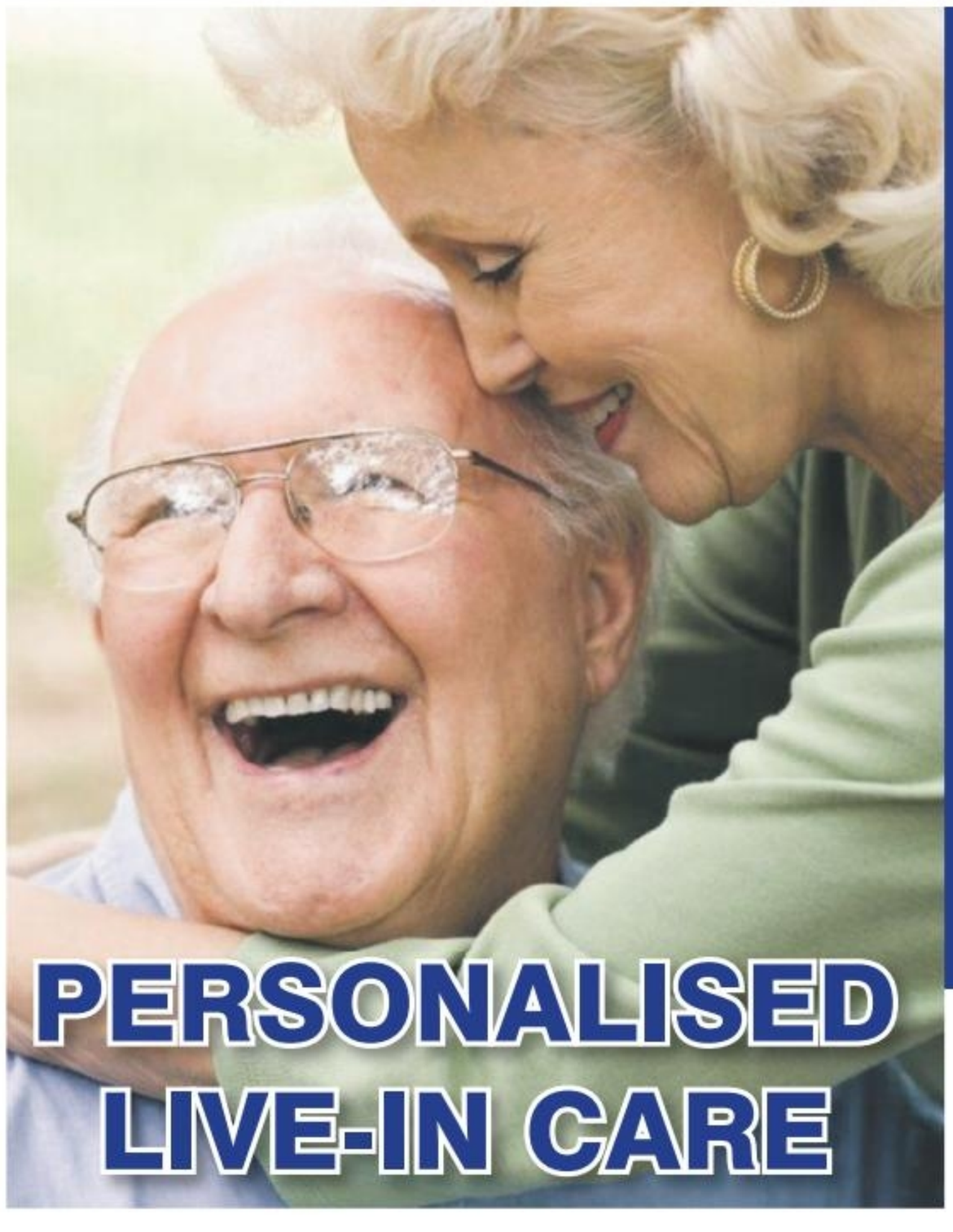
Mr Jay, a 69-year-old retired biology teacher from Grimsby in Lincolnshire, began to write an online blog about the crew's experiences.

The project was mainly so his children, grandchildren and great grandchildren could learn about the heroics of their relative.

But the project snowballed as he began to uncover the crew's lost stories.

The book, The Mallon Crew, is the product of four years of research and was published last month by CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform.

The 216-page paperback is available for £12.99 on Amazon.



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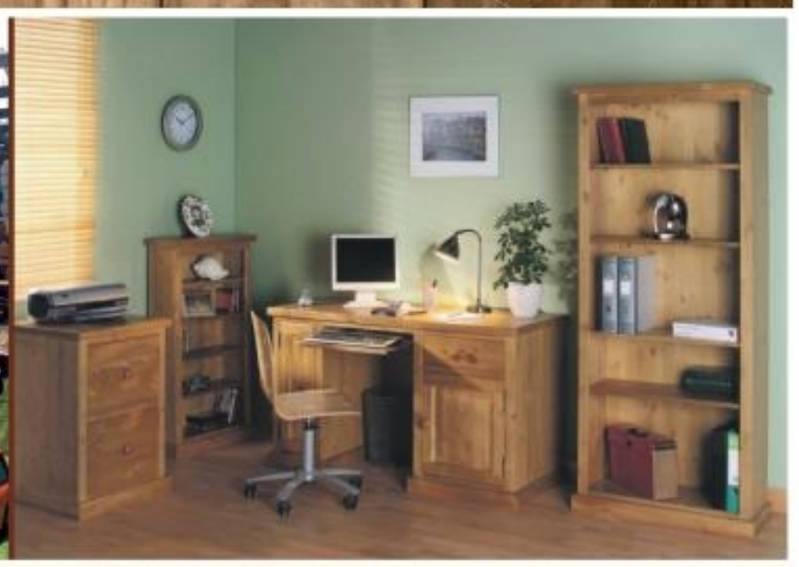

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Judges tour towns in running for top high street titles

By Samantha McGregor

• *Sonja Francis, one of the people behind Thame's bid, outside the offices of Pike Smith & Kemp in High Street*

JUDGES from The Great British High Street competition were in Oxfordshire on Friday to tour three towns vying for top awards.

Banbury, Chipping Norton and Thame have reached the finals of the contest and the winners are due to be announced in December.

Banbury is up against Blackburn, Lancashire, and Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, for the title of best town centre , while Chipping Norton and Thame face Hebden Bridge in Yorkshire for the best small town award.

Personalities across the towns are also in the running for awards - in Chipping Norton, Imogen Haverty, of The Tea Set, is nominated in the under-25 category for young people blazing a trail on their high streets, while Chris Hurdman, of Thame, is nominated for Retail Market Champion.

Also up for the Best Shop on Twitter category is The Artery, Banbury, @thearteryshop.

Shaun Fagan, of Experience Chipping Norton, said: "A finalist in the #GBHighSt awards 2015, we've gone one better this year and developed our town into a real, working digital hub.

"We're delighted to announce three exciting new initiatives - our digital sponsorship scheme Chippy Means Business, a vibrant, revamped town website and free public wi-fi coming shortly to the town centre."

Helen Johns, of Thame Town BID Team, said they were "pulling out all the stops to wow the judges".

Judge Peter Aldis, chief executive officer of Holland & Barrett International, who visited Chipping Norton and Thame, said: "Looking at the finalists, it's going to be a tough competition, but I'm excited to see examples of the innovation and community spirit that make our British high streets the institutions they are today."

Judges Deborah Owen-Ellis Clark, of British Land, and Hilary Paxman, of the Department for Communities and Local Government, visited Banbury.

Nationwide almost 900 applications were received for the 2016 contest across 14 categories. A public vote marks half of the result, with the other 50 per cent being decided by an expert judging panel.

Homes visited over council canvass

CHERWELL District Council is sending staff to visit more than 16,000 properties which have not responded to a household canvass.

Every home in the Cherwell district received a letter asking residents to confirm who lived at the property. A reminder was also sent out.

People are legally required to complete the form and return it to the council. The 16,086 properties yet to respond will get a visit between now and November 25.

All canvassers will carry photographic identification and wear high-visibility vests. They will be operating between 9am and 8pm.

James Doble, deputy electoral registration officer, said: "Throughout the course of the canvass, we have been working to register as many people as possible and minimise the costs of these follow-up visits. While voting in the UK is not mandatory, being on the electoral register is.

"The register is also used for credit checks, and this means that anyone not on it could have problems when applying for a mortgage, credit card, loan or mobile phone contracts."

Voter registration is mandatory for everyone aged 18 and over, and anyone who does not register risks a £1,000 fine. People who find that their information on the electoral register is correct can confirm this by calling 0800 197 9871, texting 80212 or view householdresponse.com/cherwellandsouthnorthants.

News Bites

Business awards

N OXON: Businesses across North Oxfordshire are being urged to enter the 2017 Cherwell Business Awards.

Sponsored by Cherwell District Council, the awards are in their sixth year. There are 11 categories and the deadline for applications is January 31, with finalists announced in March.

The winners will be unveiled at a gala dinner on May 5.

For further information, go to cherwellbusinessawards.co.uk.

Flywheel date set

BICESTER: The organisers of the Flywheel festival at a former Second World War bomber station have confirmed the dates for their third annual event.

Historic Promotions said it will take place on Saturday and Sunday, July 1 and 2 next year at the former RAF Bicester site, now called Bicester Heritage.

Last year's festival saw hundreds of historic cars, aircraft, motorbikes and military vehicles come alive on the track and in the sky.

Author's new book

N OXON: After the success of his debut children's novel Rolo, Oxfordshire writer Lawrence Prestidge, 26, has penned 'Terror at the Sweet Shop', a story about children saving their beloved sweet shop from the hands of evil.

Oscar Tarrant and his friends Emma, Reece and Ishy are customers at McNulty's Candy Kingdom next to their school.

The shop is run by Mr McNulty, a cheerful soul, who mysteriously disappears.

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• *Isabelle Providence with husband Jason Providence and two-year-old daughter Sophia*

Cancer mum in plea for fertility charity support

A MUM who had some of her ovarian tissue frozen after being diagnosed with cancer has urged the public to support an NHS service.

Isabelle Providence, 28, of Benson, made the call after being supported by the Fertility Preservation Service at the John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford – the first of its kind in England.

Doctors removed the tissue in March three days before Mrs Providence started chemotherapy that is almost certain to leave her infertile.

The tissue is frozen at an ultra-low temperature so it can be re-implanted later if she wishes to try for another child.

The service was provided without charge by Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust with the help of donations to the Future Fertility Trust, part of Oxford Radcliffe Hospitals Charitable Funds.

Mrs Providence, mum to two-year-old Sophia, was planning a second child when she was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma in January.

She said: "There is almost no doubt I would have lost any chance of further children were it not for this incredible service."

To donate, visit the website at justgiving.com/futurefertilitytrustfund.

Nine-year jail term for 'sexual predator'

By George Welch

A PAEDOPHILE in a gang of abusers who preyed on a 'vulnerable' schoolgirl has been given a nine-year prison sentence.

Naim Khan, of Herschel Crescent, Oxford, will join Assad Hussain, Anjum Dogar and Akhtar Dogar in jail after they were all arrested by police in June 2015 as part of Operation Sabaton.

The 32-year-old was sentenced on Thursday at Oxford Crown Court for similar offences against the girl as the other gang members.

Last year, officers executed warrants at nine properties across Oxford during which a number of men were arrested.

Hussain, Anjum Dogar and Akhtar Dogar have already been convicted and will spend a total of 32 years in jail following a trial this summer. At the same trial, a jury found Khan guilty of one count of unlawfully supplying the class-A drug heroin, one count of unlawfully supplying the class-A drug cocaine and one count of indecent assault.

The victim in the indecent assault charge was a 16-year-old girl and offences took place between 1999 and 2000, with the drugs offences taking place in the same period.

Khan pleaded guilty to one count of making indecent images of another child who was 13 at the time in 2007. Khan, who attempted to take drugs into prison, was also found guilty of supplying drugs last year.

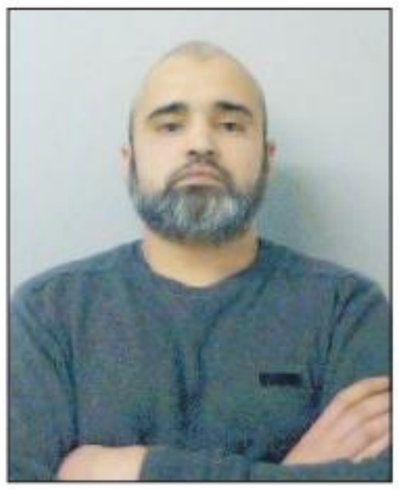
But the gang member was found not guilty of one count of indecent assault, one count of rape, two counts of sexual activity with a child and one count of causing/inciting a child to engage in sexual activity.

Det Chief Insp Mark Glover said: "Naim Khan used the supply of class-A drugs to groom a vulnerable girl, this enabled him to indecently and sexually assault her on numerous occasions.

"Khan also used his mobile phone to take indecent images of a vulnerable victim; an offence to which he pleaded guilty due to the weight of evidence against him.

"Whilst these offences happened some time ago the seriousness of them should not be underestimated.

"I am glad this sexual predator is now off the streets of Oxford and is instead in prison."



• *Naim Khan was given nine years*

• *Akhtar Dogar*

• *Anjum Dogar*

• *Assad Hussain*

News Bites

Cyclists stopped

OXFORD: Police stopped 102 cyclists riding without lights as part of a clampdown in the city centre last week.

Thames Valley Police carried out the checks on Wednesday, stopping those not displaying lights in High Street between 5.30pm and 6.30pm.

The checks took place as part of the Cycle Lights Scheme, which is run all year round across the force.

The cyclists stopped had three options: pay an on-the-spot £50 fixed penalty notice, complete an online cycle safety diversion course, costing £30, or challenge the matter in a magistrates' court.

Most of those stopped opted for completing the safety course.

Mystery solved

KIDLINGTON: The mystery of coachloads of Chinese tourists descending on Kidlington has been solved - they are in search of "the true sense" of the UK.

Residents were puzzled over the summer by the visitors posing for photos next to front gardens and parked cars.

But a tour guide has confirmed they are attracted by the quiet houses and gardens.

The guide was responding to a BBC question sheet that was handed to tourists.

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News Bites

Fireworks arson

OXFORD: A man has been arrested after a box of fireworks was used to set fire to a car.

Police said the back window of a blue Honda Civic was smashed at 8pm on October 22 before a large box of fireworks were lit on the backseat of the car.

The suspect then ran away from the car, which was parked on a driveway in Abingdon Road. The fireworks caused extensive damage to the inside but nobody was injured.

A 25-year-old man from Oxford has been arrested on suspicion of arson with intent to endanger life.

Police said the offender was wearing a light coloured hood or hat, a dark long-sleeved jacket and light-coloured jeans and trainers.

Contact police on 101.

Drive campaign

OXON: Young drivers are being urged to take extra care on the roads ahead of a campaign this month to raise awareness of traffic collisions.

A record number of Safe Drive Stay Alive (SDSA) productions will be held this month, which will be seen by more than 23,000 students across Thames Valley and Hampshire.

Visit safedrive.org.uk for more information.

Rainbow hair raises £700 for Skye charity

By George Welch

DESPITE receiving some second glances on the street, Maxine Deadman was more than happy to sport her new 'rainbow' hair-do as it helped the Oxfordshire Guardian's charity of the year raise £727 for charity.

The 38-year-old mum of two has embraced hair dye to raise money for Blue Skye Thinking.

The charity was set up by Sally and Andrew Hall in memory of their son Skye, who died in 2014 from side effects of his treatment for Medulloblastoma, an aggressive and cancerous brain tumour.

Mrs Deadman's hair was dyed by her friend on October 10 and 16 at her home in Abingdon.

She decided to raise money for the charity after the cause became close to her heart.

She said: "During 2016 a number of family members and friends have sadly lost someone dear to them due to cancer or have been helping close relatives through the immense battle that come with this disease and its treatments.

"My young son sadly lost a friend to cancer earlier this year and as the second beautiful child to be taken too soon from our local primary school

• *Maxine Deadman and right, her coloured hair*

Oxfordshire Guardian's Charity of the year 2016 Aim Skye High Appeal

I felt it is time to do something somewhere to help fight against this horrible disease.

"When I recently saw in local media that they were looking for new and wacky fundraising ideas for Aim Skye High I knew this was the charity I wanted to help.

"A few friends and my mum were here to watch, and enjoy being together while this was done. It meant a lot to me and my close friends to raise this money, without them and the donations of others too it wouldn't have been the success I feel it was."

Money raised by Mrs Deadman will go towards the charity's Aim Skye High Appeal, which aims to raise £50,000 towards a three year Post Doctoral research position at the Northern Institute for Cancer Research.

Through the appeal, the charity is encouraging people to think of a new and very different way to raise money.

To sponsor Mrs Deadman, visit justgiving.com/fundraising/Maxine-Deadman1

To support the appeal, visit campaign.justgiving.com/charity/blueskyethinking/aim-skyehigh, or text UPUP52 £3 to 70070.

Student has designs on movie director's work

A STUDENT from Carterton is displaying her artistic talents at an exhibition in the north-east devoted to celebrated film director Sir Ridley Scott.

To celebrate the works of the South Shields-born Hollywood star, 21-year-old Alys Church and other students from Cleveland College of Art and Design (CCAD) – Sir Ridley's former college – are showcasing their artistic talents at an exhibition in South Shields.

Some of Sir Ridley's best known works include Blade Runner (1982), Gladiator (2000) and The Martian (2015).

In homage to the Oscar-winning director, students created costumes and props from his films.

Miss Church, a costume interpretation with design student, produced a dress and wolf-fur cloak from the character Lucille in Gladiator.

She said: "I loved the variety of Lucille's costumes and how they would allow me to explore a number of new and existing skills to help my development in construction.

"Trying to get it looking exactly like the original whilst staying in a reasonable budget was a challenge.

"I had to compromise a few details and adapt elements in order to achieve a costume which I believe looks like the real thing whilst still being affordable for me to produce."

And Miss Church has welcomed the opportunity to contribute to the exhibition, which is taking place at The Word in South Shields until May 2017.

She added: "It's really exciting to have had this opportunity to showcase my abilities in costume to the public.

"It'll be a great experience to see the exhibition in full force and get to celebrate such a talented director with my peers who have all worked so hard for the exhibit."

• *Alys Church with her costume from Gladiator*

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£250,000 boost for pavilion plan

• *Thame Cricket Club is celebrating after receiving a £250,000 council grant towards their new clubhouse scheme*

By Samantha McGregor

THAME Town Cricket Club's plan for a new clubhouse has moved a step closer after it was awarded a £250,000 grant.

South Oxfordshire District Council approved an application by the club for cash to help realise the project.

The new clubhouse, in Church Meadow, would provide facilities in the town and be available for use by the community.

Plans were approved in May which would see the club's old pavilion demolished and replaced by a "fit for purpose" building with modern facilities suitable for multiple sports and a range of community activities.

The two-storey building would have a kitchen, a bar and a function room on both floors, storage rooms, an office, changing rooms and a viewing terrace.

Club vice-chairman Matt Swain said: "We are delighted with the grant approval from SODC and would like to thank Thame Town Council for their support with the application. This grant means delivering the project is now wholly achievable."

To date, 80 per cent of the funds needed to redevelop the site have been raised and construction work is due to start next September. It is hoped the new facilities will be open by April 2018 ready for the cricket season.

Mr Swain said: "We will continue to execute our fundraising plan with both national and local organisations and individuals in order to secure the remaining funds.

"We would welcome any further support for the project and have a number of schemes including 'Buy a Brick', in which individuals or organisations can contribute to the fundraising effort.

"The new clubhouse will make a huge difference, not just to the members of the cricket, hockey and netball clubs but the broader community of Thame, who will be able to enjoy the facility in the heart of town at one of the most idyllic settings that Oxfordshire has to offer.

"The new clubhouse is part of our future aspirations to become one of the best clubs in Oxfordshire which will help provide sustainability for many years to come."

The club, which has more than 200 members, moved to the site in 1975.

Music festival raises £1,300

TWO Banbury charities have benefited from a pub's summer music festival.

Katharine House Hospice at Adderbury and the Radio Horton hospital radio station each received £650, after £1,300 was raised at the DeerJam Music Festival at Ye Olde Reindeer Inn in Parsons Street.

A team from Radio Horton compèred the festival and recorded local bands and musicians to broadcast to patients at the town's Horton General Hospital.

Earlier this month, the station was presented with its share of the money raised by a raffle and a collection.

Radio Horton's Bob Dainty said: "We are extremely grateful to accept this cheque for £650, which will contribute towards running costs and continued expansion into delivering our hospital radio service to patients at the Horton, and to local care homes."

Among the acts were Gareth Gwyn; Acoustic Journey, Stevie Cooper & Lindsay May; Bushfield Smith; Stuart Layzell, Neva Mynd, Mississippi Disco and headliners The SKAlectrics.

• *The festival boosted two charities*

News Bites

Handbag snatched

BANBURY: An 80-year-old woman had her handbag snatched by a man in the town.

She was walking along a footpath towards Morrisons at 11.40am on Tuesday, October 18, when the theft happened. Police have just released the details.

Officers are appealing for witnesses and are linking the theft to others in the area.

A 20-year-old Banbury man arrested on suspicion of theft has been bailed until November 16.

Shoppers urged

BICESTER: Residents of a Bicester retirement housing complex evacuated on Christmas Eve in 2013 after severe flash flooding have been nominated as part of the Tesco Bags of Help Grant Programme.

They are urging shoppers to vote for their sensory garden scheme at the Manorsfield Road site to receive funding. Hanover Housing Association's estate manager Tracey Dias-Gunawardena and residents came up with the plan.

Festive charity run

THAME: This year's Festive Fun Run in Thame, organised by the Aylesbury-based Florence Nightingale Hospice, takes place on Sunday, December 4.

People are encouraged to dress in festive attire and all entrants get a free Santa hat. Those taking part can choose to walk, run or jog the 3k route around the town centre.

Application forms are available at Thame Information Centre.

For more details, go to fnhospice.org.uk or call 01296 429975.

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Competition

WIN tickets to the awe inspiring premiere night of Cirque Du Soleil: Amaluna

Cirque Du Soleil's most successful UK Show returns to the iconic Royal Albert Hall from 12 January 2017

Amaluna is back by popular demand after rave reviews. *Amaluna* is a tale of castaway romance and the obstacles that true love presents, described by The Times as "Thrillingly executed" and the London Evening Standard as "A dazzling display of acrobatic excellence". *Amaluna* is filled with jaw-dropping performances and Cirque du Soleil's signature mind-blowing acts, which are sure to stun audiences when the show returns to London.

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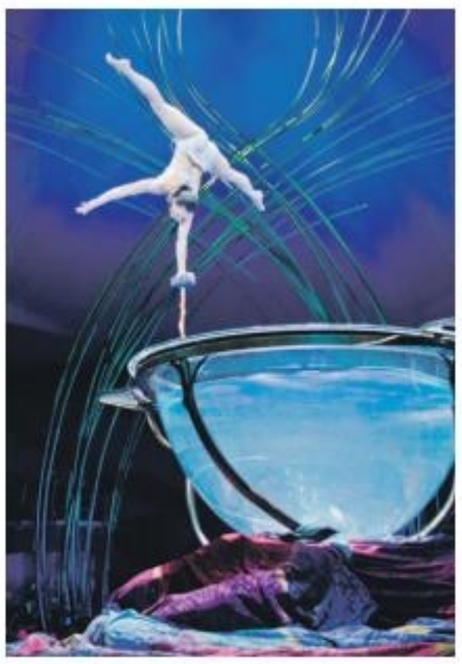
Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, London SW7 2AP Limited season from 12 January 2017. For more details visit www.cirquedusoleil.com



Win tickets!

We have teamed up with Cirque du Soleil to offer our readers the chance to win a pair of tickets to see this highly sought after production on the Premiere Night at the Royal Albert Hall on Thursday 12 January 2017.

Closing date: Sat, Dec 3, 2016

There are 3 pairs of tickets to be won. To enter answer the following question:

Q: Which city is Cirque du Soleil's headquarters based in?

London, Montreal, New York or Paris?

Prize tickets are Price Level 2-4 and are only valid for the premiere night on 12th January 2017, strictly subject to availability. Tickets are non-transferable. No cash alternative is available. Travel is not included.

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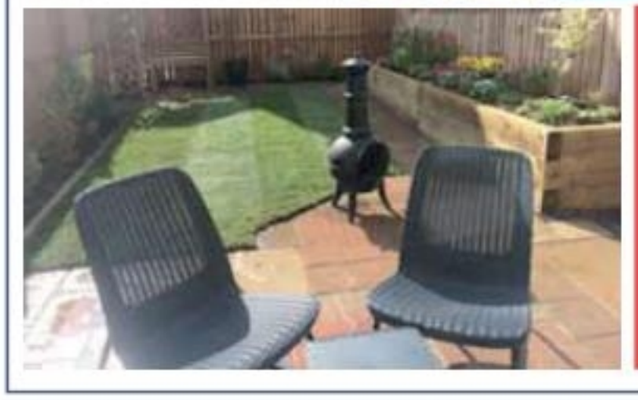

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Competition

WIN tickets to Country Homes & Interiors Christmas

We have teamed up with the organisers of Country Homes & Interiors Christmas to offer 10 lucky readers a chance to win a pair of tickets to this brilliant event. Taking place at the gorgeous Stonor Park from 25 – 27th November 2016, the show will feature 100 hand-picked bespoke and boutique country businesses offering on-trend and seasonal homewares, luxury goods and festive treats.

Situated in the picturesque grounds of Stonor Park, the new and indulgent Christmas experience Is the place

Closing date: Monday, Nov 23

to discover and perfectly personal Christmas gifts, home and lifestyle products; all housed in beautifully styled floored and heated marquees.

Visitors will be able to experience Christmas at its most magical by entering the show through an amazing festive forest. Complete with shimmering baubles and the scent of clove and pine in the air this winter wonderland will be sure to get visitors feeling festive.

With a bespoke gift wrapping service including beautiful bows, perfect prints and tasteful tags, a showcase of fantastic product and expert exhibitors on hand to answer any questions, Country Homes & Interiors Christmas will ensure visitors will leave with perfect gits and unique pieces that will delight all family and friends.

For more information and details of exhibitors and features visit www.ichfevents.co.uk.

To be in with a chance of winning a pair of tickets Answer the following simple question:

Q: In which county is Stonor Park?

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WIN tickets to Living Crafts for Christmas at Blenheim Palace

IF you are looking for high quality, contemporary British craftsmanship and original designs, enjoy your Christmas shopping in style this year at Living Crafts for Christmas. From Thursday 17th - Sunday 20th November Blenheim Palace will be welcoming over 160 talented designer-makers from across the UK to this event which combines creativity and outstanding design. Soak up the special festive atmosphere while choosing gifts for all the family, direct from the makers.

From simple stocking fillers to special commissions, discover studio glass, art, millinery, designer-fashions, toys, handmade soaps, candles and ceramics and so much more! New this year, visitors will be welcomed by crafts in action in the Easy Courtyard featuring amazing demonstrations.

Enjoy choosing presents with a personal touch in the majestic setting of The Great Court which is transformed into a magical wonderland with twinkling Christmas trees in the colonnades. The event takes place in heated

Closing date: 14 Nov 2016

and carpeted pavilions and a feast of warming food and drink will be available. Plenty of winter Pimms,roasting chestnuts and hot chocolate all add to the atmosphere while visitors enjoy festive street theatre and traditional carols played by a brass band.

Seasonal aromas fill the air in 'Tastes of Christmas' with traditional festive fare and unusual foodie ideas. Glorious gifts or treats for yourself include handmade chocolates, artisan charcuterie, Christmas puddings, luxurious cakes, hampers, condiments and waxed truckles. Don't miss the chance to embrace the season and try warming whiskies, winter fruit syrups and award-winning gins. Enjoy the joy and cheer of a Christmas market with a difference and wrap up your Christmas shopping – a visit to Living Crafts for Christmas is a fabulous festive day out.

Please visit www.livingcrafts.co.uk for tickets and further event details. Follow us on Twitter @LivingCraftsUK Facebook LivingCraftsUK

We have 4 pairs of tickets to this amazing event, and to be in with chance of winning a pair all you have to do is answer this simple question:

Q: Which legendary Prime Minister was born at Blenheim Palace?

To enter this competition and more like it, go online to

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Competition

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Two speed crossword

Quick Clues Across

1 North American fish dish (7)
5 Cured meat (5)
8 Rouse (4)
9 Grace (8)
10 In a style of building (13)
13 Stimulus (4)
14 Elliptical (4)
17 Place of business (13)
19 Confidence (8)
20 Grass with hollow stem (4)
21 Having got up (5)
22 Worthless (7)

Quick Clues Down

2 Those with strong dislikes (6)
3 Reverence (7)
4 Concerned with voting (9)
5 Narrow-minded person (5)
6 Exercise authority over (7)
7 Irritates (7)
11 Places of religious seclusion (9)
12 More obvious (7)
13 Pays up (7)
15 Naval officer (7)
16 Enrages (6)
18 Seat of the intellect (5)

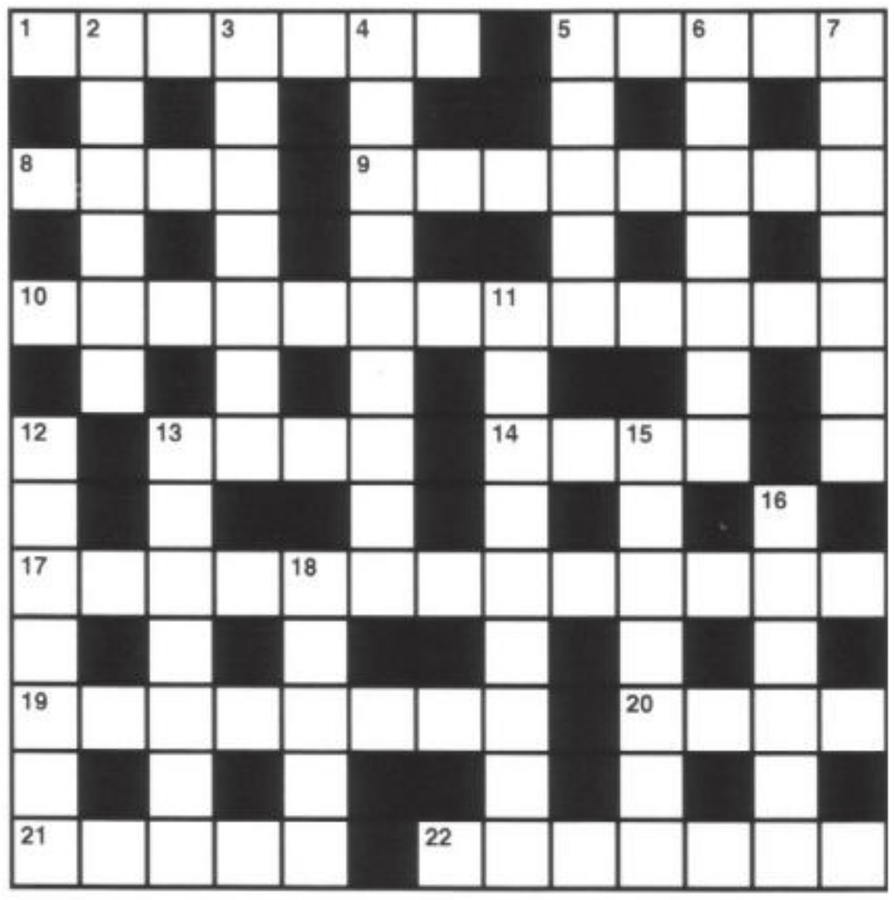
Scribble space

Cryptic Clues Across

1 A sailor, mark, will do without (7)
5 The peak reached by a hundred with the remainder following (5)
8 Strikes back to kill (4)
9 Ban the former list (8)
10 Being urged to use too little steam? (5,8)
13 A sure way to set a trap (4)
14 The advantage of being on the outside (4)
17 Examination of how to bury the prayer (13)
19 Out or inside contempt (8)
20 Time to go back and give out (4)
21 Sees a new way and relaxes (5)
22 Communication about the turmoil of the era? (7)

Cryptic Clues Down

2 Mr Crosby takes it up in mordant fashion (6)
3 Picture forbidden round the meadow (7)
4 Are opting out to get the highest speed (2,3,4)
5 Suits the societies (5)
6 Period certain to be scrubbed out? (7)
7 Put us after these to kill the Minotaur (7)
11 The outcome when the crisis had a different end? (9)
12 Can the end slip out of the yarn-holder? (7)
13 Gets weary again when he leaves work (7)
15 Deduces that the gun belongs to a lady (7)
16 Expecting to nip up and have an unfair share outside (6)
18 Unruly tress is at ease (5)



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Puzzles

Sudoku

The objective is to fill a 9×9 grid with digits so that each column, each row, and each of the nine 3×3 sub-grids that compose the grid (also called "boxes", "blocks", "regions", or "sub-squares") contains all of the digits from 1 to 9. The puzzle setter provides a partially completed grid, which for a well-posed puzzle has a unique solution.

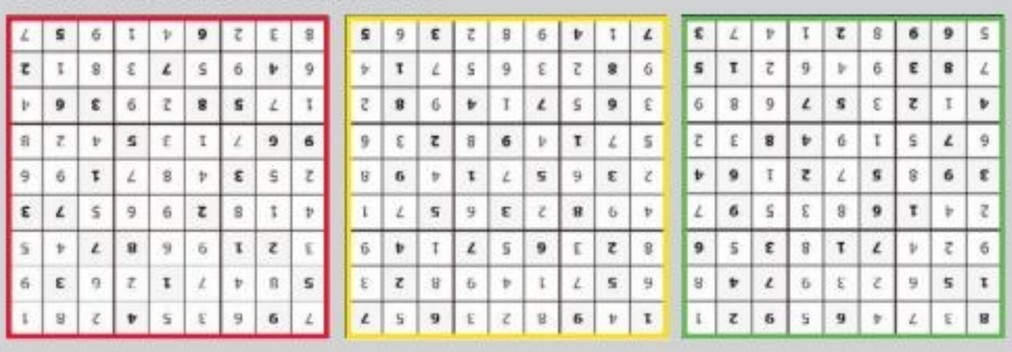
EASY/MEDIUM/HARD

8				6		9	2	
1	5					7	4	
			7	1		3		6
		1	6				9	
3	9		5		2		6	4
	7				4	8		
4		2		5	7			
	8	3					1	5
	6	9		2				3

1		9				6		7
	5						2	
	2		6		7		4	
		8		3		5		
	3		5		1		9	
		1		9		2		
	6		7		4		8	
	8						1	
7		4				3		5

	9				4			
5				1			3	
	2	1			8	7		
			2				7	3
		3				1		
9	6				5			
		5	8			3	6	
	4			7				2
			6				5	

This week's solutions



Quick Crossword

Across: 1 Chowder 5 Bacon 8 Stir 9 Elegance 10 Architectural 13 Spur 14 Oval 17 Establishment 19 Reliance 20 Reed 21 Risen 22 Useless

Down: 2 Haters 3 Worship 4 Electoral 5 Bigot 6 Control 7 Needles 11 Cloisters 12 Clearer 13 Settles 15 Admiral 16 Angers 18 Brain

Cryptic Crossword

Across: 1 Abstain 5 Crest 8 Stab 9 Tabulate 10 Under pressure 13 Ruse 14 Edge 17 Interrogation 19 Derision 20 Emit 21 Eases 22 Message

Down: 2 Bring 3 Tableau 4 In top gear 5 Clubs 6 Erasure 7 Theseus 11 Emergence 12 Spindle 13 Retires 15 Gathers 16 Hoping 18 Rests

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Barn-storming set promised by singer

CANADIAN singer-songwriter Sarah Jane Scouten is no stranger to performing in Oxfordshire.

The musician, who performed at the Bullingdon in the city last year, ironically on Canada Day, is returning to the county to perform tunes off her latest album and EP at The Three Horses in Towersey on Wednesday, November 23.

See inside for more.

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Saturday November 12th

BBC1

Pointless Celebrities, 6.05pm

9.15 Saturday Kitchen Live (S) **10.45 The Lord Mayor's Show** (S) **12.05 Football Focus** (S) **12.35 Bargain Hunt** (S)(R) **1.00 BBC News** (S) **1.15 Four Nations Rugby League 2.00 Live International Rugby Union** (S) **4.30 Escape to the Country** (S)(R) **5.15 Celebrity Mastermind** (S)(R) **5.45 BBC News** (S) **5.55 BBC Regional News** (S) **6.05 Pointless Celebrities** (S)(R) **6.55 Strictly Come Dancing** (S)

7

8

8.10 The National Lottery: Who Dares Wins Game show in which strangers pair up to win money. (S)

9

9.00 The Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance Huw Edwards presents coverage of the annual event from the Royal Albert Hall. (S)

10

10.40 BBC News; Weather; (S) National Lottery Update (S)

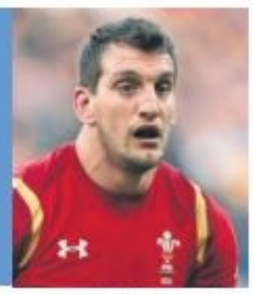
11

11.00 Room 101 – Extra Storage With Vernon Kay, Kelly Hoppen and Miles Jupp. (S)(R)
11.40 Asian Provocateur: Mum's American Dream (S)

AFTER 12

12.10 FILM The Rebound (2009) (15) Romantic comedy, with Catherine Zeta-Jones and Justin Bartha. (S) **1.40** Weather for the Week Ahead (S) **1.45** BBC News (S)

BBC2



Live International Rugby Union, 5pm

7.35 The Women's Football Show (S)(R) **8.10 FILM Suspicion (1941) (PG)** (S) **9.45 Secret Britain** (S)(R) **10.45 The Good Cook** (S)(R) **11.15 Hairy Bikers' Best of British** (S)(R) **12.15 The Best Dishes Ever** (S)(R) **12.45 Homes Under the Hammer** (S)(R) **1.30 Talking Pictures** (S) **2.15 FILM Guess Who's Coming to Dinner (1967) (PG)** (S) **4.00 Flog It!** (S) **5.00 Live International Rugby Union** (S)

7.30 International Rugby Union England v South Africa. Jason Mohammad presents highlights from Twickenham. (S)

8.30 Balletboyz – Young Men Feature-length dance film without dialogue shot on location in northern France. (S)

9.30 FILM Mandela: Long Walk to Freedom (2013) (12) Premiere. Biopic of the South African leader. Starring Idris Elba and Naomie Harris. Introduced by actor Idris Elba, as part of the BBC's participation in BFI's Black Star season. (S)

11.50 FILM Red Tails (2012) (12) Fact-based Second World War drama, starring Terrence Howard and Cuba Gooding Jr. (S)

1.50 This Is BBC Two (S) **5.45** The A to Z of TV Gardening (S)(R)

ITV

The Jonathan Ross Show, 9.30pm

9.25 ITV News (S) **9.30 Murder, She Wrote** (S)(R) **11.20 Wild Australia with Ray Mears** (S)(R) **11.50 Judge Rinder** (S)(R) **12.50 ITV News;** Weather (S) **1.00 Cash Trapped** (S)(R) **1.55 This Time Next Year** (S)(R) **2.55 Big Star's Little Star** (S)(R) **4.00 Thunderbirds Are Go** (S) **4.20 The Chase** (S)(R) **5.25 ITV Regional News;** Weather (S) **5.40 ITV News** (S) **6.00 Tipping Point: Lucky Stars** (S)

7.00 Meet the Parents Dating show, hosted by Holly Willoughby. (S)

8.00 The X Factor The live show phase continues. (S)

9.30 The Jonathan Ross Show The host is joined by TV presenter Jeremy Clarkson, singer Robbie Williams, comedian Micky Flanagan and pop sensations Little Mix. (S)

10.30 ITV News; Weather (S)
10.45 FILM The Bourne Ultimatum (2007) (12) Spy thriller sequel, starring Matt Damon, Julia Stiles and David Strathairn. (S)

12.50 Jackpot247 3.00 Murder, She Wrote (S)(R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen

Channel 4

Formula 1: Brazilian Grand Prix Qualifying – Highlights, 8pm

6.10 Gillette World Sport (S) **6.40 Mobil 1 The Grid** (S) **7.10 Everybody Loves Raymond** (S)(R) **8.00 Frasier** (S)(R) **9.00 The Morning Line** (S) **10.00 The Big Bang Theory** (S) **11.25 The Simpsons** (S)(R) **12.30 Deal or No Deal** (S) **1.30 Channel 4 Racing** (S) **4.00 Jamie's Super Food** (S)(R) **4.30 Location, Location, Location** (S)(R) **5.35 A Place in the Sun: Winter Sun** (S) **6.30 Channel 4 News** (S)

7.00 China: Between Clouds and Dreams Four children investigate why people in their town are suffering from mystery illnesses. (S)

8.00 Formula 1: Brazilian Grand Prix Qualifying – Highlights Action from the battle for pole position in the 20th round of the season. (S)

9.30 FILM Non-Stop (2014) (12) An air marshal on a transatlantic flight searches for a terrorist threatening to kill the passengers one by one. Action thriller, with Liam Neeson. (S)

11.40 FILM Underworld: Awakening (2012) (18) Action fantasy, starring Kate Beckinsale and India Eisley. (S)

1.20 Hollyoaks (S)(R) **3.25** Phil: Secret Agent Down Under (S)(R) **4.20** Kirstie's Vintage Gems (S)(R) **4.30** Deal or No Deal (S)(R) **5.15** Wedding Town (S) **5.45** Motor Sport: 2016 FIA World Endurance Championship (S)

Channel 5

NCIS: New Orleans, 8.25pm

6.00 Milkshake! 10.10 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (S)(R) **10.45 House Doctor** (S)(R) **11.45 FILM A Bride for Christmas (2012) (PG)** (S) **1.25 FILM Christmas Angel (2012) (PG)** Family drama, starring Della Reese. (S) **3.30 FIA Formula E Live: Marrakech** The Marrakech ePrix. (S) **5.30 FILM 2012 (2009) (12)** Disaster movie, starring John Cusack and Chiwetel Ejiofor. (S)

8.25 NCIS: New Orleans A naval psychologist is killed in close proximity to a funeral procession. (S)

9.20 NCIS: New Orleans A US Navy lieutenant dies from arsenic poisoning in an Army general's hotel suite. (S)

10.15 That's So 1985 A look at events in 1985 using news, pop and TV archive clips to provide a reminder of the time, including the Live Aid concerts prompted by the famine in Ethiopia. (S)(R)

11.15 Football on 5: Goal Rush George Riley and Lynsey Hipgrave introduce all the goals from the games in Leagues One and Two. (S)

12.15 SuperCasino 3.10 The Yorkshire Vet (S)(R) **4.00** Storm Force: Winter Road Rescue (S)(R) **4.50** House Doctor (S)(R) **5.15** House Doctor (S)(R) **5.40** Angels of Jarm (S)(R) **5.50** Roary the Racing Car (S)(R)

DIGITAL

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00 The Hot Desk: DNCE **6.10** Emmerdale **8.35** Coronation Street **10.30** Celebrity Catchphrase **11.30** You've Been Framed: The Next Generation! **12.30** FILM: The Lake House (2006) (PG) **1.30** FYI Daily **1.35** FILM: The Lake House (2006) (PG) **2.35** FILM: Honey (2003) (PG) Urban dance drama, starring Jessica Alba. **3.35** FYI Daily **3.40** FILM: Honey (2003) (PG) Concluded. **4.40** FILM: Beethoven's 2nd (1993) (U) Comedy sequel, starring Charles Grodin. **5.40** FYI Daily **5.45** FILM: Beethoven's 2nd (1993) (U) Comedy sequel, starring Charles Grodin. **6.25** FILM: Arthur (2011) (12) Comedy remake, starring Russell Brand. **7.25** FYI Daily **7.30** FILM: Arthur (2011) (12) Concluded. **8.30** Scorpion **9.30** The Xtra Factor Live **10.00** Celebrity Juice **11.00** Prank Pad **1.00** Family Guy **1.30** American Dad! **2.00** Bordertown **2.25** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.50** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10

6.00 Movies Now **6.10** Doctor at Large **7.00** Where the Heart Is **9.00** Wycliffe **10.05** Agatha Christie's Marple **12.05** FILM: Columbo: The Most Dangerous Match (1973) (PG) **1.40** Inspector Morse **4.00** Midsomer Murders **7.55** Doc Martin **9.00** Endeavour **11.00** The Blonde Bombshell **1.10** Wycliffe **2.10** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9

7.00 India's Frontier Railways **8.00** The Incredible Human Journey **9.00** Deep Water **10.50** Jeff Lynne's ELO at Hyde Park **12.15** Tubular Bells: The Mike Oldfield Story **1.15** Top of the Pops: 1982 **2.35** Jeff Lynne's ELO at Hyde Park **3.55** Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28

6.00 Animals Unleashed **7.10** Baby Daddy **8.05** Melissa & Joey **9.00** Made in Chelsea **10.05** How I Met Your Mother **11.00** Black-ish **12.00** The Goldbergs **1.00** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **2.00** FILM: Aliens in the Attic (2009) (PG) Children's sci-fi comedy, starring Carter Jenkins. **3.45** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **4.00** The Big Bang Theory: Wizard Weekend **9.00** FILM: Magic Mike (2012) (15) Comedy drama, starring Channing Tatum. **11.15** Gogglebox **12.20** Rude Tube **1.25** The Inbetweeners **2.35** New Girl **4.00** The Mindy Project **4.45** Revenge

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14

8.55 Tony Robinson: Down Under **9.55** Britain's Ancient Tracks with Tony Robinson **10.55** Vet on the Hill **12.00** Come Dine with Me **2.40** Four in a Bed **5.20** Come Dine with Me **8.00** China's Forgotten Emperor **9.00** Tony Robinson: Down Under **10.00** 8 Out of 10 Cats **10.50** Father Ted **11.55** High Class Call Girls **1.00** More Sex Please, We're British **2.05** Tony Robinson: Down Under **3.10** 8 Out of 10 Cats **3.50** Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15

11.00 The Last Frontier (1955) (PG) Western, starring Victor Mature. **1.00** Home Alone (1990) (PG) Family comedy, starring Macaulay Culkin. **3.05** The Spy Next Door (2010) (PG) Comedy, starring Jackie Chan. **4.55** Carry On Spying (1964) (U) Comedy, starring Kenneth Williams. **6.45** I, Robot (2004) (12) Sci-fi thriller, starring Will Smith. **9.00** Gladiator (2000) (15) Oscar-winning Roman epic, starring Russell Crowe. **12.00** 48 Hrs (1982) (15) **1.55** Sorority Row (2009) (18) **4.00** Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12

7.10 Sin City Motors **8.00** Top Gear **9.00** American Pickers **12.00** Top Gear **1.00** Ice Road Truckers **3.00** Trawlermen **4.00** Storage Hunters UK **7.00** Room 101 **8.20** Would I Lie to You? **9.00** Have I Got a Bit More News for You **10.00** Dave Gorman: Modern Life Is Goodish **11.00** Mock the Week **11.40** Alan Davies: As Yet Untitled **12.40** Room 101 **2.00** Have I Got a Bit More News for You **2.50** Idris Elba – King of Speed **3.40** The Indestructibles **4.00** Close

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20

7.10 Pie in the Sky **11.00** Sharpe **1.00** Campion **3.00** Pie in the Sky **6.00** New Tricks **7.00** Jonathan Creek **8.00** Murdoch Mysteries **9.00** Rebus **10.30** Waking the Dead **12.55** The Green Green Grass **1.50** The Whale **4.00** Close

SKY1 SKY: 106

6.00 Are You Smarter Than a 10 Year Old? **7.00** Monkey Life **9.00** The Fantasy Football Club **10.00** Soccer AM **11.30** The F1 Show **12.00** Fantastic Beasts and Where To Find Them: Special **12.30** Futurama **2.30** The Bachelor King **4.00** Harry Hill's Tea-Time **4.30** Yonderland **5.00** Supergirl **6.00** The Flash **7.00** The Simpsons **8.00** Landscape Artist of the Year 2016 **9.00** Stan Lee's Lucky Man **10.00** FILM: Freddy vs Jason (2003) (18) Horror, starring Robert Englund. **11.50** Arrow **12.50** DC's Legends of Tomorrow **1.50** A League of Their Own **2.50** Nothing to Declare **3.50** Border Security: Canada's Front Line

SKY ATLANTIC SKY: 108

6.00 The British **7.00** Urban Secrets **8.00** Without a Trace **11.00** Making Attenborough's Galapagos **12.00** Cold Case **4.00** Blue Bloods **9.00** Game of Thrones **11.10** Last Week Tonight with John Oliver **11.45** Amy Schumer: Live at the Apollo **1.05** Ray Donovan **3.20** Entourage **4.00** The British **5.00** Urban Secrets

W SKY: 109

6.15 DIY SOS **6.40** DIY SOS: The Big Build **7.35** Extreme Makeover: Home Edition **8.30** The Bill **1.30** EastEnders **4.05** Extreme Makeover: Home Edition **5.00** Supernanny **7.00** My Family **9.00** Jonathan Creek **10.20** Luther **11.40** Secrets and Lies **12.40** Code Black **1.40** Doctor Who **2.30** Bondi Rescue **3.00** Home Shopping

CHRISTMAS GOLD SKY: 110

7.10 Blandings **8.25** Lovejoy **11.55** Outnumbered **12.50** Only Fools and Horses **2.50** FILM: Oliver! (1968) (U) Musical, starring Ron Moody. **6.00** FILM: White Christmas (1954) (U) Musical, starring Bing Crosby and Danny Kaye. **8.00** TOTP: Christmas 2012 **9.55** The Royle Family Special **11.10** French and Saunders **11.50** Legends of Stand-Up Christmas Special **12.55** The Catherine Tate Show **1.30** The Thick of It **3.20** Bewitched **4.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY: 401

6.00 Football League Gold **6.15** Football Gold **6.30** Football League Gold **6.45** Football Gold **7.00** F1 Midweek Report **7.30** Game Changers **8.00** International Football: FIFA World Cup 2018 Qualifiers **9.00** The Fantasy Football Club **10.00** Soccer AM **11.30** Live EFL. Swindon Town v Charlton Athletic (kick-off 12.00pm). **2.00** Live International Rugby Union. England v South Africa (kick-off 2.30pm). **4.45** Live International Football: FIFA World Cup 2018 Qualifiers. Austria v Republic of Ireland (kick-off 5.00pm). **7.15** Live International Football: FIFA World Cup 2018 Qualifiers. Wales v Serbia (kick-off 7.45pm). **10.15** International Football: FIFA World Cup 2018 Qualifiers **2.15** International Rugby Union **4.15** International Football: FIFA World Cup 2018 Qualifiers **5.45** Football Gold

Sunday November 13th

DAYTIME

BBC1

Planet Earth II, 8pm

6.00 Breakfast (S) **9.00 The Andrew Marr Show** (S) **10.20 Remembrance Sunday: The Cenotaph** (S) **12.30 The People Remember** (S) **1.30 BBC News;** Weather (S) **1.45 Live Four Nations Rugby League** (S) **4.15 Planet Earth II** The wildlife of remote islands. (S)(R) **5.15 Songs of Praise** (S) **5.50 BBC News** (S) **6.10 BBC Regional News; Weather** (S) **6.15 Countryfile: A Remembrance Sunday Special** (S)

7
7.15 Strictly Come Dancing: The Results Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman present the results of last night's show. (S)

8
8.00 Planet Earth II Animals that live in mountain ranges. (S)

9
9.00 My Mother and Other Strangers New series. Drama set in Northern Ireland during the Second World War. (S)

10
10.00 BBC News (S)
10.20 BBC Regional News; Weather (S)
10.30 The Selfless Sikh: Faith on the Frontline Documentary about a Sikh aid worker in Iraq. (S)

11
11.00 DIY SOS at Great Ormond Street Hospital The DIY SOS team embarks on a special challenge. (S)(R)

AFTER 12
12.00 Citizen Khan (S)(R) **12.30** Weather for the Week Ahead (S) **12.35** BBC News (S)

BBC2

Operation Gold Rush with Dan Snow, 8pm

8.15 Countryfile Ramble for BBC Children In Need (S)(R) **9.30 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites** (S) **11.00 The Good Cook** (R) **11.30 Tom Kerridge's Proper Pub Food** (S)(R) **12.00 Bargain Hunt** (S)(R) **1.00 International Rugby Union** (S)(R) **2.00 Live Tennis: ATP World Tour Finals 5.00 Flog It!** (R) **5.30 Remembrance Sunday: The Cenotaph Highlights** (S) **6.30 FILM Miss Potter (2006) (PG)** (S)

8.00 Operation Gold Rush with Dan Snow The team arrives at Dawson City. Last in the series. (S)

9.00 Will Britain Ever Have a Black Prime Minister? Examining the factors preventing black people from assuming positions of power. (S)

10.00 Black Is the New Black Thoughts on growing up. (S)
10.30 Later – with Jools Holland: Groove & Grime Jools presents a compilation of archive clips featuring black artists. (S)

11.30 FILM She's Out of My League (2010) (15) Romantic comedy, with Jay Baruchel and Alice Eve. (S)

1.10 Sign Zone: Countryfile Ramble for BBC Children In Need (S)(R) **2.20** Holby City (S)(R) **3.20** This Is BBC Two (S)

ITV

The Next Great Magician, 7pm

9.05 Scrambled!: Adventure Time (S)(R) **9.25 ITV News** (S) **9.30 Bear Grylls Survival School** (S) **10.00 Peston on Sunday 11.00 Gino's Italian Escape: Hidden Italy** (S)(R) **11.30 Murder, She Wrote** (S)(R) **12.25 ITV News** (S) **12.35 The Chase** (S)(R) **1.35 The X Factor** (S)(R) **3.05 Midsomer Murders** (S)(R) **5.00 Tipping Point** (S)(R) **6.00 ITV Regional News** (S) **6.15 ITV News** (S) **6.30 Off Their Rockers** (S)

7.00 The Next Great Magician Downton Abbey's Jim Carter and TOWIE's Amy Childs help some of the second batch of performers with their illusions.

8.00 The X Factor Dermot O'Leary presents the results of last night's show. (S)

9.00 I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here! New series. Ant and Dec return to the jungles of Murwillumbah in New South Wales, Australia. (S)

10.45 ITV News; Weather (S)

11.05 The Pity of War: The Loves and Lives of the War Poets Fact-based First World War drama, starring John Hurt. (S)

12.00 Anglo-Welsh Cup Highlights (S) **12.50** Jackpot247 **3.00** Motorsport UK (S) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen **5.05** The Jeremy Kyle Show (S)(R)

Channel 4

Humans, 9pm

6.15 Triathlon: Challenge Aruba (S) **6.40 Frasier** (S)(R) **7.30 FILM Imagine That (2009) (PG)** (S) **9.30 Sunday Brunch** (S) **12.30 Channel 4 Racing** (S) **2.45 FILM Rango (2011) (PG)** Oscar-winning animated comedy, with the voice of Johnny Depp. (S) **4.50 FILM Johnny English (2003) (PG)** Spy comedy, starring Rowan Atkinson, John Malkovich and Natalie Imbruglia. (S) **6.30 Channel 4 News** (S)

7.00 Last Heroes of the Somme The story of how the Battle of the Somme was finally won after months of fighting. (S)

8.00 Great Canal Journeys Timothy West and Prunella Scales venture into the open sea as they make their way through the islands of Scotland's coast.

9.00 Humans Athena arrives in the UK, and her tragic secret is revealed. Niska's consciousness assessments begin, and the Synths are forced to abandon their hiding place. (S)

10.00 Formula 1: Brazilian Grand Prix Highlights Action from the race at Interlagos in Sao Paulo, which served as the 20th and penultimate round of the season. (S)

12.05 FILM The Sitter (2011) (15) Comedy, starring Jonah Hill. (S) **1.45** The Last Leg (S)(R) **2.40** Killing Kennedy (S)(R) **4.25** Kirstie's Vintage Gems (S)(R) **4.40** Deal or No Deal (S)(R) **5.30** Wedding Town (S) **5.55** The King of Queens (S)(R)

Channel 5

Ice Road Truckers, 8pm

9.25 Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles (S)(R) **10.00 Football on 5: Goal Rush** (S)(R) **11.00 5 News Special: Remembrance Sunday** (S) **11.05 The Gadget Show** (S)(R) **12.05 House Doctor** (S)(R) **1.05 FILM The Heart of Christmas (2011) (PG)** (S) **2.50 FILM Road to Christmas (2006) (12)** (S) **4.35 FILM One Christmas Eve (2014) (PG)** (S) **6.15 FILM Married by Christmas (2016) (PG)** (S)

8.00 Ice Road Truckers Todd finds a novel way of conquering a melted ice crossing. (S)
8.55 5 News Weekend (S)

9.00 FILM Pompeii (2014) (12) Premiere. Disaster movie, starring Kit Harington and Emily Browning. Includes 5 News Update at 10pm. (S)

11.05 FILM Red Dawn (2012) (12) Action adventure remake, with Chris Hemsworth and Jeffrey Dean Morgan. (S)

12.45 Criminals: Caught on Camera (S)(R) **1.15** SuperCasino **3.10** Ben Fogle: New Lives in the Wild (S)(R) **4.00** Tattoo Disasters UK (S)(R) **4.25** Tattoo Disasters UK (S)(R) **4.50** House Doctor (S)(R) **5.15** House Doctor (S)(R) **5.40** Angels of Jarm (S)(R)

DIGITAL

ITV2 SKY: 118 FV: 6

6.00 The Hot Desk: Adam Lambert **6.10** You've Been Framed! Gold **6.35** Emmerdale **9.00** Coronation Street **11.00** The X Factor **12.30** The Hot Desk: Vicky Pattison **12.40** I'm a Celeb: Stars of Oz **1.35** FILM: The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie (2004) (U) **2.35** FYI Daily **2.40** FILM: The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie (2004) (U) **3.20** FILM: The Smurfs (2011) (U) **4.20** FYI Daily **4.25** FILM: The Smurfs (2011) (U) **5.25** FILM: Yogi Bear (2010) (U) **6.25** FYI Daily **6.30** FILM: Yogi Bear (2010) (U) **7.00** FILM: Jack and Jill (2011) (PG) Comedy, starring Adam Sandler. **8.00** FYI Daily **8.05** FILM: Jack and Jill (2011) (PG) Concluded. **9.00** The Xtra Factor Live **10.00** Family Guy **10.30** The Hot Desk: Busted **10.45** I'm a Celebrity: Extra Camp **11.45** Family Guy **12.45** American Dad! **1.15** The Cleveland Show **2.10** The Hot Desk: Vicky Pattison **2.20** Teleshopping **5.50** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3 SKY: 119 FV: 10

6.00 Movies Now **6.10** Doctor at Large **6.35** FILM: The Baby and the Battleship (1956) (U) **7.40** FYI Daily **7.45** FILM: The Baby and the Battleship (1956) (U) **8.20** Heartbeat **10.25** FILM: Black Beauty (1994) (U) **11.25** FYI Daily **11.30** FILM: Black Beauty (1994) (U) **12.10** A Touch of Frost **2.15** FILM: Columbo: A Deadly State of Mind (1975) (PG) **3.50** FILM: The Queen (2006) (12) **4.50** FYI Daily **4.55** FILM: The Queen (2006) (12) **5.55** By Royal Appointment **7.10** The Making of a Lady **9.00** Appropriate Adult **12.00** Inspector Morse **2.10** Wycliffe **3.30** May the Best House Win **5.10** On the Buses **5.40** ITV3 Nightscreen

BBC4 SKY: 116 FV: 9

7.00 Canals – The Making of a Nation **7.30** Books That Made Britain **8.00** Jeremy Deller: We're here because we're here **8.30** Railway Walks **9.00** Destination Titan **10.00** The Sky at Night **10.30** Cathy Come Home **11.50** Nature's Wonderlands: Islands of Evolution **12.50** Stuff: A Horizon Guide to Materials **1.50** Destination Titan **2.50** Wild Burma: Nature's Lost Kingdom **3.50** Close

E4 SKY: 136 FV: 28

6.00 Rude(ish) Tube **6.20** Baby Daddy **7.10** Melissa & Joey **8.00** How I Met Your Mother **9.00** Hollyoaks **11.30** Made in Chelsea **12.30** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD **1.30** FILM: Scrooged (1988) (PG) **3.30** The Goldbergs **4.30** The Big Bang Theory **8.00** FILM: The Day After Tomorrow (2004) (12) Disaster thriller, starring Jake Gyllenhaal and Dennis Quaid. **10.30** Tattoo Fixers on Holiday **11.35** The Inbetweeners **12.40** The Inbetweeners Top 10 Moments **1.50** Crazyhead **2.45** Body Fixers **3.40** Hollyoaks

MORE4 SKY: 138 FV: 14

8.55 Kirstie's Vintage Gems **9.25** Food Unwrapped **9.55** Tiny House Nation **10.50** Come Dine with Me **1.30** Four in a Bed **4.15** Come Dine with Me **6.55** Car SOS **8.00** War Horse: The Real Story **9.00** Guy Martin's Spitfire **10.40** Father Ted **12.55** War Horse: The Real Story **2.00** Guy Martin's Spitfire **3.30** Close

FILM4 SKY: 315 FV: 15

11.00 Bend of the River (1952) (PG) **1.00** Ferris Bueller's Day Off (1986) (15) **3.05** ParaNorman (2012) (PG) **4.55** Moonrise Kingdom (2012) (12) Comedy drama, with Bruce Willis and Edward Norton. **6.55** Terminal Velocity (1994) (15) Action thriller, starring Charlie Sheen. **9.00** R.I.P.D (2013) (12) Fantasy adventure, with Ryan Reynolds and Jeff Bridges. **11.00** The Last King of Scotland (2006) (15) Political thriller, starring Forest Whitaker. **1.30** Monsieur Lazhar (2011) (12) **3.35** Close

DAVE SKY: 111 FV: 12

7.10 Motorway Cops **8.00** Top Gear **9.00** Top Gear Winter Olympics Special **10.00** Top Gear **11.00** Motorway Cops **12.00** Celebrity Storage Hunters **1.00** Storage Hunters **2.00** American Pickers **5.00** Top Gear **6.00** Top Gear Winter Olympics Special **7.00** Jay Leno's Garage **8.00** Top Gear **9.00** Have I Got a Bit More News for You **11.00** QI XL **12.00** 8 Out of 10 Cats **1.00** Not Going Out **3.00** The Money Pit **4.00** Close

DRAMA SKY: 158 FV: 20

7.10 Pie in the Sky **8.00** The Bill **12.00** David Copperfield **4.00** Catherine Cookson's A Dinner of Herbs **7.00** Murdoch Mysteries **8.00** New Tricks **9.00** Silent Witness **11.10** Spooks **1.50** The Great Train Robbery **3.35** Garden Hopping **4.00** Close

SKY1 SKY: 106

6.00 Hour of Power **7.00** Monkey Life **9.00** Supergirl **10.00** The Flash **11.00** WWE: Raw **12.00** Drone Racing League **2.00** Modern Family **5.00** The Simpsons **6.00** Harry Hill's Tea-Time **6.30** Yonderland **7.00** The Simpsons **8.00** A League of Their Own **9.00** An Idiot Abroad 2 **10.00** The Force: Essex **11.00** The Force: Manchester **12.00** Chris Ryan's Strike Back **2.00** Stop, Search, Seize **3.00** Nothing to Declare **4.00** Border Security: Canada's Front Line

SKY ATLANTIC SKY: 108

6.00 The British **7.00** Urban Secrets **8.00** The West Wing **1.00** Making Attenborough's Galapagos **2.00** Without a Trace **5.00** Cold Case **9.00** Westworld **10.10** Divorce **10.45** The Young Pope **11.55** Ray Donovan **2.15** Cold Case **3.10** Without a Trace **4.05** The British **5.00** Urban Secrets

W SKY: 109

6.00 Bondi Rescue **6.25** DIY SOS: The Big Build **7.10** Your Home in Their Hands **8.30** EastEnders **11.00** Extreme Makeover: Home Edition **3.00** Doctor Who **6.00** My Family **8.00** I've Got Something to Tell You **9.00** John Bishop: In Conversation with Miriam Margolyes **10.00** FILM: Watchmen (2009) (18) Comic-book drama, starring Patrick Wilson and Jackie Earle Haley. **1.10** Doctor Who **3.00** Home Shopping

CHRISTMAS GOLD SKY: 110

7.05 Blandings **8.20** Lovejoy **10.40** Only Fools and Horses **12.00** FILM: White Christmas (1954) (U) **2.00** FILM: Oliver! (1968) (U) Musical, starring Ron Moody. **5.10** Only Fools and Horses **9.20** Marley's Ghosts **10.00** Knowing Me, Knowing Yule – With Alan Partridge **10.55** Knowing Me, Knowing You – With Alan Partridge **12.10** Extras **12.50** The Catherine Tate Show **1.25** Stella Street **1.40** The Armando Iannucci Shows **2.45** Time Trumpet with Armando Iannucci **3.20** Bewitched **4.00** Close

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY: 401

6.00 International Football: FIFA World Cup 2018 Qualifiers **9.30** The Sunday Supplement **11.00** Goals on Sunday **12.00** Live EFL. **2.00** Live EFL. Chesterfield v Sheffield United (kick-off 2.15pm). **4.30** Sporting Triumphs **5.00** Live International Football: FIFA World Cup 2018 Qualifiers. **7.00** My Fight: Kovalev/Ward **7.30** Football Gold **7.40** Live International Football: FIFA World Cup 2018 Qualifiers. Belgium v Estonia (kick-off 7.45pm). **9.40** International Football: FIFA World Cup 2018 Qualifiers **12.10** My Fight: Kovalev/Ward **12.40** Goals on Sunday **1.40** Spanish Football Gold **2.00** International Football: FIFA World Cup 2018 Qualifiers **4.30** Football Gold **5.10** Spanish Football Gold

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

A touch of Canada

By James Richings

SHE has gigged all over the UK but on Wednesday, November 23, Canadian country musician Sarah Jane Scouten will experience a new venue when she arrives at The Three Horses in Towersey as part of her small UK tour.

The singer-songwriter will be performing at the pub's barn.

And for Sarah, any Oxfordshire based venue she gigs will always be special for her, as her family has strong links to the county.

"I love performing anywhere in Oxfordshire as my grandfather, a Canadian in the RAF, studied at Oxford University after the Second World War," she said.

"I like imagining seeing the places he explored with his own eyes."

"And I've never performed in Towersey, but I am looking forward to it very much.

"All of England holds a great amount of charm for most North Americans, so going to a new place is always really exciting."

The Canadian songstress arrives in the UK with playing partner Kristine Schmitt to promote her upcoming album 'When the Bloom Falls from the Rose', which Sarah describes as 'lush'.

She hopes the new record will be as successful as her debut album, 'The Cape', for which she was nominated for two awards at the 2014 Canadian Folk Awards.

• *Sarah Jane Scouten*

And even though she didn't win, being recognised for her work has given her extra confidence.

She said: "It certainly helps with promotion as being publicly recognised as an artist of merit.

"I also just feels nice, so that can boost an artist's confidence and give them the motivation to keep going, keep writing, going further and digging deeper. I love being able to perform to a crowd where you could hear a pin-drop.

"It's like going to live theatre, where even the pauses, the audible inhalations, mean something."

"There are so many more body language cues available at a live show, and I believe that's where the songs truly exist, in their delivery and in their reception by the audience."

Tickets cost £11 and the gig will begin at 7.30pm.

From Harrogate to Didcot

NIGEL Lindsay is a classic character actor – playing any role in film, television and on stage with ease.

He gained rave reviews with his performances as the title character in, 'Shrek the Musical' in the West End, as well as receiving national recognition with his role as Sir Robert Peel in the current ITV1 drama series 'Victoria', and in the 2010 comedy film 'Four Lions', where he played an Islamic convert called Barry.

So when he arrives at the Cornerstone Arts Centre in Didcot tomorrow night, starring in 'Harrogate', what can the Station Road venue audience expect?

"You can expect a taut hour and a half with twists, laughs, uncomfortable revelations and a lot to talk about on the way home," Nigel told the Guardian.

"The show explores how, in an extremely dangerous way, a man tries to recapture the love he felt for his wife when they first met and the consequences for his whole family of the unwise direction he follows."

He also had some tips for aspiring actors: "If you have the ability, try and be versatile.

"That way, if the work dries up in one area, the phone will keep ringing.

"This year I have been fortunate enough to work in straight and musical theatre, modern and period television drama, film and alternative comedy. You need to keep your options open."

On his experience in starring in 'Four Lions', the 49-year-old said: "Four Lions was the most fun I'd ever had doing extremely hard work.

"I had to audition as Barry in the casting director's reception because the audition room was being used.

"The secretaries thought I was a basket case."

Tickets cost £15 and 'Harrogate' starts at 7.30pm.

• *Nigel Lindsay in action*

We are delighted to be able to announce a very exciting opportunity for a commercial and/or sports facility in the heart of Chipping Norton.

The sports facility includes a full size football pitch which can be used for a range of activites and the building will be constructed to 'Sport England' changing room specification and the end user can specify any further requirements.

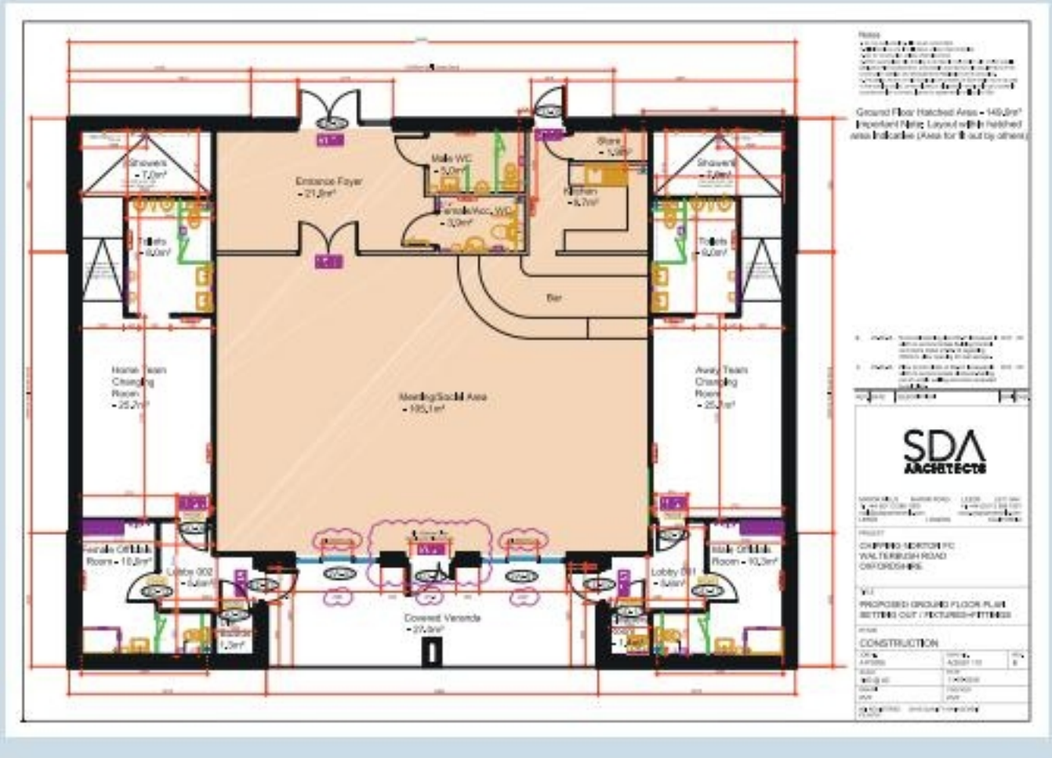
The property already has the benefit of planning permission with the local planning authority which is listed as a clubhouse. However if an alternative use category is required by an end user then we would try to accommodate that need.

As part of a redevelopment project that is taking place on Walterbush Road and in conjunction with Bellway homes we are in the process of constructing this beautiful new facility which will be available for rent with a space of approximately 3,000 square foot and will be available from early New Year.

The space would be ideal for a crèche, gym, surgery, licensed bar or any other activity. As it is still being constructed there is an opportunity to ensure that the space is fitted to meet specified requirements.

The location is in the heart of the community of Chipping Norton and situated close to local amenities. This opportunity is also on the doorstep of a brand new residential estate.

If you might be interested in using this amazing newly built space or wish to inspect the site then please contact Mr Glyn Jones on 07971381494.



ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Neville's message to you

• *Neville Staple comes to the O2 Academy (Picture by Vic May Photography)*

By James Richings

NEARLY a year and a half after his show at the O2 Academy, Neville Staple is returning to the city on Friday, November 18.

The 61-year-old returns with a mixture of old and new, as he will perform tracks from his new album 'The Return of Judge Roughneck', which celebrates his time with the popular ska group 'The Specials'.

And the Jamaican-English singer-songwriter hopes he can create more enjoyable memories in Oxford like he did last summer.

"The Oxford crowd are always so appreciative and love a good party," Neville told the Guardian.

"My shows are all about enjoying yourself and have a good stomping session and you always get that in Oxford.

"And my new album and this tour is named after the character I played back in the early days of the Specials, called Judge Roughneck.

"He is a ruthless character who was present on stage for songs like 'Stupid Marriage', where I would wear a wig and gown whilst performing.

"All of this is in tribute to Prince Buster (a fellow musician who died in September this year) and his 'Judge Dread' song characters.

"In fact, the lead track off my new album is a cover from a Prince Buster song, that we used for our 'Gangsters' 1979 hit song."

Originally from Manchester, Jamaica, the musician moved to England as a youngster with his family where he settled in Coventry.

He met radio DJ and record producer Pete Waterman, and the two struck up a friendship that helped get Neville's name known in the music industry.

He then became a household name in the late '70s/early '80s when The Specials achieved huge success in the UK music world, when their first seven singles all peaked in the top 10 of the country's official charts, with the band also achieving two number ones in that time, with their second chart topper, 'Ghost Town', being one of the band's biggest songs.

"I didn't expect it ('Ghost Town being number one) and just wished I had not signed over my writing rights away for it," Neville explained.

"But at the time, I didn't have anyone giving me the right advice.

"It is such an iconic track and I'm very proud of it and just wish things hadn't ended just after it, as I believe we could have kept going.

"'Ghost Town' is probably our most famous hit tune and the fans at my shows, cry out for me to perform it along with 'A Message To You Rudy' or 'Gangsters' our first 2 hits."

The show starts at 7pm and tickets cost £16.50.

Join Alfie on his space travel

THE Cornerstone Arts Centre in Didcot will be thrown back to the '60s on Sunday when 'Alfie White: Space Explorer' visits the Station Road venue.

Written and directed by Olivia Jacobs and Toby Mitchell from the Tall Stories Theatre Company, the play is set in 1967 and young Alfie White is telling his friends at school that his dad could be the first man to walk on the moon.

Well, that's what he believes but in actual fact, Alfie's dad has gone missing and he has no idea where he has gone.

Is he still on planet Earth or has he gone into space?

"The best thing about our shows is that children and grown-ups get to enjoy a story together – in the same way that they might go to a Disney or Pixar movie together," Toby told the Guardian.

"And going to watch live theatre is important for the children as it is for grown-ups, as we all enjoy experiencing a good story, performed live."

He added: "Tall Stories has performed 'The Snail and the Whale' and 'Emily Brown' as short runs with 'The Snow Dragon' as a longer run last Christmas.

"So we always have a lovely time there (Cornerstone) so we're very pleased to be returning!"

It is suitable for anyone over the age of five, and tickets cost from £6 to £8.

The show will start at 2.30pm.

• *Alfie White: Space Explorer*

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Detached home on market

A WELL-PRESENTED, three-bedroom house in Grove is on market at a guide price of £370,000.

The detached home in The Maples, in the outskirts of village next to Wantage, is being offered for sale through Davis and Tate estate agents.

As well as three double bedrooms, the generously proportioned property has a spacious living/dining room spanning the full width of the house, a re-fitted ground-floor cloakroom, a kitchen and a conservatory with double doors opening

• Continued on page 42

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ALL PROPERTY MATTERS

25 YEARS davis tate

ABINGDON OPEN HOUSE Saturday 10th December - Strictly by appointment only A newly converted & extended stunning detached house, 2500 sq. ft. of accommodation, village location. EPC rating C.

£695,000 Abingdon office 01235 526907

DIDCOT A deceptively spacious five bedroom detached home in a quiet cul-de-sac in the heart of Harwell village. Conveniently located for commuters. EPC rating D.

£600,000 Didcot office 01235 818371

EAST HENDRED A select new build development of four executive detached homes in this popular village location. Double garage, lawned rear garden. Awaiting EPC Rating.

£550,000 Wantage office 01235 772670

DIDCOT A smartly presented three bedroom detached bungalow situated on a very generous plot, with planning permission for enlargement and conversion into 2 dwellings. EPC rating D.

£495,000 Didcot office 01235 818371

WANTAGE A rare opportunity to purchase a property in this highly regarded location. An extremely well presented and generously proportioned detached residence. EPC Rating D

£370,000 Wantage office 01235 772670

WANTAGE A beautiful four bedroom townhouse just 0.3 miles walk from the Wantage Market Place. Allocated parking & garage. EPC Rating C.

£350,000 Wantage office 01235 772670

ABINGDON-ON-THAMES An attractive, South-facing rear garden compliments this well-presented, semi-Detached house set in a Cul-de-Sac with garage & parking. EPC Rating B.

£329,950 Abingdon office 01235 526907

WANTAGE A generously proportioned period property with a substantial garden, two reception rooms, re-fitted kitchen, re-fitted bathroom, three bedrooms and a downstairs cloakroom. EPC rating E

£279,950 Wantage office 01235 772670

GORING Spacious and well presented four bedroom detached house in a quiet cul-de-sac on the edge of the village. 0.2 miles to the mainline train station. Available NOW, unfurnished. EPC rating D.

£2500 PCM plus fees Didcot office 01235 818371

ABINGDON-ON-THAMES A stunning & newly fitted open-plan kitchen/family room compliments this newly renovated four double bedroom house. Available NOW. Unfurnished. EPC Rating E.

£1,850 PCM Plus fees Abingdon office 01235 526907

ABINGDON-ON-THAMES A detached four bedroom family home, renovated to include new carpets and a newly fitted bathroom & kitchen. Unfurnished. Available NOW. EPC Rating D.

£1,450 PCM Plus fees Abingdon office 01235 526907

GORING A centrally located first floor apartment located on the High Street in Goring on Thames. Just 0.2 miles from the Goring and Streatley mainline station. Available 4th Jan. EPC rating E

£825 PCM Plus fees Didcot office 01235 818371

ALL PROPERTY MATTERS

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Abingdon £265,000

Located 0.3 miles from Abingdon centre, this townhouse offers an ideal balance between character and practical features. EPC Rating E.

Abingdon £210,000
Two bedroom ground floor apartment located on the Poets development within 1.2 miles of the A34. EPC Rating D

Drayton £275,000
Unique and filled with character features, this two bedroom home enjoys all of the advantages of village living. EPC Rating D.

Abingdon £340,000
Bright family home within a mile of Abingdon town centre, with the advantage of a leafy outlook to the front, overlooking the Green. EPC Rating C.

Abingdon £225,000
OFFERS IN EXCESS OF £225,000. First time buyers will appreciate the proximity to Abingdon that this cluster home has to offer. EPC Rating D.

North Abingdon £265,000

Located in a cul-de-sac position, this two bedroom terraced home benefits from an enclosed rear garden and driveway parking. EPC Rating D.

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Andrews

Abingdon £270,000

Located close to the picturesque Albert Park is this two bedroom end of terrace property built in a mock Tudor style. EPC Rating D.

Abingdon £285,000

Viewers will appreciate the heritage of this property as it forms part of the converted former 'Horse and Jockey' public house. EPC Rating C.

Drayton £275,000

Perfectly suited for a young family due to its position on a no-through road is this modern three bedroom home. EPC Rating C.

Abingdon £210,000

One bedroom ground floor apartment located within Thames View, popular as it's within 0.5 miles of the town centre. EPC Rating C.

North Abingdon £169,950

Perfect for first time buyers is this one bedroom first floor maisonette with own entrance, parking space and garden. EPC rating F.

Milton £275,000

A well cared for and well appointed three bedroom terraced home. EPC Rating D.

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House offers spacious accommodation

• From front page

on to the patio. To the first floor are found the three double bedrooms, the master having an en-suite shower room, plus the family bathroom with a white suite.

The spacious entrance hall has stairs leading to the first floor. The cloakroom has a re-fitted contemporary suite. The main reception space has a window overlooking the garden and double door leading into the conservatory.

The conservatory overlooks a landscaped rear garden and opens on to the south-facing patio area. The kitchen is spacious with a window overlooking the front lawn. The rear garden offers a good degree of privacy, with a patio area, a landscaped lawn and borders with mature trees and shrubs.

The property has driveway parking for several vehicles and a single garage, which is currently partitioned to provide a study area. The garage has light and power.

To arrange a viewing, or for further details, contact the selling agent Davis Tate's Wantage on 01235 772670 or visit the website: www.davistate.com

House prices in Oxford rise by more than 18% over last 18 months

Bill Cooper, co-author of The Oxford Property Blog and managing director of Martin and Co, Oxford

Over the last six weeks, property values in the Oxford City Council area rose by 6.2%, to leave annual price growth also at 6.2%. These rises compare well to the national figures where property prices across the UK saw an uplift of 0.42%, meaning the annual property values across the country are 8.3% higher.

Looking at the figures for the last 18 months shows Oxford house prices are 18.1% higher, compared to the national average figure of 13.6% higher.

Over the last 18 months, in the Oxford City Council area, the best performing type of property was the semi-detached, which outperformed the area average by 0.78% whilst the worst performing type was the apartment, which under-performed the area average by 1.42%.

That difference doesn't sound that much, but remember two things, this is only over 18 months and the 'spread' of 2.2% (the difference between the semi at +0.78% and apartments at -1.42%) converts into a few thousand pounds disparity, when you

consider the average price paid for a semi-detached property in Oxford itself over the last 12 months was £480,000 and the average price paid for an Oxford apartment was £310,000 over the same time frame.

So how has each property types performed? Over the last 18 months in Oxford:

- Overall average: +18.1%
- Detached: +18.1%
- Semi-detached: +19.0%
- Terraced: +18.6%
- Apartments: +16.4%

When I looked at the month-by-month figures for the area, you can quite clearly see there is a slight tempering of the Oxford property market over these last few months. I have mentioned in previous articles that the number of properties on the market in Oxford has increased this summer, something that hasn't happened since 2008. Greater choice for buyers usually means that top prices won't be achieved on every Oxford property. You see some of that growth in Oxford property values throughout early 2016 may have come about because of a surge in house purchase activity, an indirect result of the increase in stamp duty on second homes from April, thus providing a temporary boost to prices.

Overall, I believe that sellers need to pull out the stops to 'dress' their house for sale, to ensure that it is presented as strongly as possible in a more competitive market. To help, I recently published an eBook 'The Ultimate Guide To Sell Your Home – How to sell quicker for more in Oxford'. If you are interested in receiving a copy, simply visit www.OxfordPropertyBlog.co.uk and request a copy.

Landlords urged to employ experts on evictions

Approximately 70 per cent of eviction notices issued to tenants may be defective, potentially leaving landlords facing considerable delays and extra expense as they seek to regain possession of their property.

There has been a rise in the number of Section 21 and Section 8 notices that prove to be invalid under the Housing Act 1988, according to legal firm Kirwans. This has led to a significant increase in the number of delays for landlords seeking to evict a tenant - sometimes for as long as two months - as well as considerable rental losses, as they are forced to wait for a new eviction notice to be issued.

Carole Charge, technical and compliance director at property specialist Leaders, said: "The Deregulation Act, which came into effect last year, has brought a number of complicated legal changes to the industry in a short period of time.

"As such, many landlords, in particular those who let a property without the support of a knowledgeable letting agent, are finding the notices they are preparing to regain possession of their property are defective. Many are using online forms that are now out of date, inaccurate and will not be recognised in court.

"If a Section 21 notice is found to be invalid, it is likely to result in a delay of at least two months in regaining possession."

Should a landlord wish to evict a tenant to regain possession of a property, they must follow a strict process. This involves serving notice, issuing a claim for possession in court and requesting a warrant for possession.

The Deregulation Act also stipulates that a Section 21 notice may be invalid if the landlord has not responded in the correct way to any complaints or requests for repairs from their tenants during the tenancy.

Carole added: "It is vital to follow the process to the letter. While some landlords seek legal support, it is very often after the initial Section 8 or Section 21 notice has been served, by which time it is too late as the notice is defective.

"The best way to ensure no mistakes are made and your interests are fully protected is to work with a professional letting agent with in-house experts who can draw up legally-compliant eviction notices and ensure the process is carried out correctly every step of the way."

For expert advice on letting or renting a property, contact your local Leaders branch or visit leaders.co.uk.

Do you know where you will be living next year?

3 BEDS
Harcourt Terrace, Headington **£1575**
Stonor Place, Headington **£1200**
Valentia Road, Headington **£1575**
Bailey Road, Cowley **£1600**
Bailey Road, Cowley **£1675**
Iffley Road, Cowley **£1425**
Cardwell Crescent, Headington **£1300**
South Street, Oxford **£1650** NEW LISTING

4 BEDS
Bullingdon Road **£1840**
Kirby Place, Cowley **£1495**
Regent Street, Cowley **£2400**
Valentia Road, Headington **£1900**
Stonor Place, Headington **£2040**
Marlborough Road **£1700** NEW LISTING

4 BEDS (continued)
East Avenue **£2700** NEW LISTING
Cowley Road **£2000** NEW LISTING
Marlborough Road **£1850** NEW LISTING
~~Henley Street, East Oxford £1995~~ LET
Iffley Road, Cowley **£1795**
Kirby Place, Cowley **£1495**
Hillview Road, Botley **£1700**
Ferry Hinksey, Botley **£1825**
Kirby Place, Cowley **£1495**
Cardwell Crescent, Headington **£1900**
Kirby Place, Cowley **£1495**
Wharton Road, Headington **£1895**
~~Gipsy Lane, Headington £2100~~ LET
Wharton Road, Headington **£1895**
Valentia Road, Headington **£2100**
Randolph Street, Cowley **£1795**
Cricket Road, Cowley **£2400**
~~Cowley Road, Cowley £2100~~ LET
Shelley Road, Cowley **£1800**

5 BEDS
Regent Street, East Oxford **£3000**
Headley Way, Marston **£2700**
Cowley Road, Cowley **£2675**
~~Morris Crescent, Cowley £2090~~ LET
Valentia Road, Headington **£2425**
London Road, Headington **£2625**
~~Cardwell Crescent, Headington £2575~~ LET
~~James Street, Cowley £2450~~ LET
Parson Place, St Clements **£2250**
~~Morris Crescent, Cowley £2575~~ LET
Coleridge Close, Cowley **£2500**
Marston Street, Marston **£2200**

5 BEDS (continued)
Bullingdon Road, Cowley **£2500**
Addison Crescent, Headington **£2575**
Osler Road, Headington **£2875**
Minster Road, Headington **£2750**
Warwick Street, Iffley **£2740** NEW LISTING

6 BEDS
Windmill Road, Headington **£3750**
~~Gipsy Lane, Headington £3150~~ LET
~~Harcourt Terrace £3150~~ LET
~~Valentia Road, Headington £2100~~ LET
St Marys Road, Cowley **£2850**
~~Cowley Road , Cowley £3600~~ LET
Cowley Road, Cowley **£3600**
~~Valentia Road, Headington £3150~~ LET
Harcourt Terrace, Headington **£3000**
Cricket Road , Cowley **£3150**
Cramner Road, Rosehill **£3000**
Old Road, Headington **£2900**
Howard Street, Cowley **£2700**
~~Valentia Road, Headington £3150~~ LET
Leopold Street, Cowley **£3500**
Bullingdon Road **£3150** NEW LISTING

6 BEDS (continued)
Cowley Road **£2650**
Cricket Road, Cowley **£2850**
Divinity Road, Cowley **£3600**
Bullingdon Road, Cowley **£2600**
St Marys Road, Cowley **£3600**
Addison Crescent, East Oxford **£3090**

7 BEDS
East Avenue, Cowley **£3650**
~~Howard Street, Cowley £3150~~ LET
Old Road, Headington **£4200**
~~Lime walk, Headington £3675~~ LET
Valentia Road, Headington **£4200**
Regent Street, Cowley **£3160**

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Abingdon £1,050 pcm

Newly converted two bedroom apartment with ground & basement floors. Furnished/Unfurnished.
Available: Immediately
EPC RATING: C

Abingdon £850 pcm

An attractive one bed house. Unfurnished. 6 month tenancy. Available Late October
EPC RATING: D

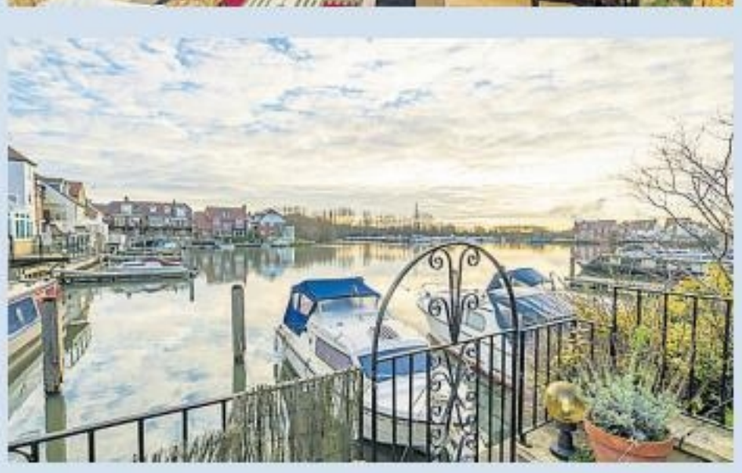
Abingdon

A superb second floor apartment within the Merchants Place development in Abingdon town centre close to Waitrose with a few minutes walk to the rest of the amenities in the town.
Two double bedrooms, a well fitted kitchen in an open plan living room, bathroom, en-suite shower room to the master bedroom, gas central heating. Allocated parking.
Unfurnished. Available: Late December
EPC RATING: C

£1,050 pcm

Abingdon £2,100 pcm

An attractive and stylish semi-detached house with wonderful views over looking Abingdon Marina, good access to Didcot railway station, Oxford city and the ring road.
Four bedrooms, three bathrooms, kitchen, dining/sitting room, conservatory, garage converted to storage and office space, parking. Un/Part furnished. Available 12th December
EPC RATING: E



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The Southwold is a three bedroom house with an open plan fitted kitchen including integrated appliances, It features a sitting room and dining area with french doors to the rear garden, En suite and built-in wardrobe to bedroom one

ELMSBROOK £P.O.A

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TINGEWICK £271,996

HELP TO BUY PRICE

The Epsom is a three bedroom detached home with a kitchen including an oven and integrated appliances and an open plan sitting room and dining room with french doors. Upstairs benefits from an en suite and built-in wardrobes to bedroom one.

AMBROSDEN £336,000

HELP TO BUY PRICE

The Ashford is a well appointed family home offering two generous reception rooms, a stunning kitchen breakfast room and the added benefit of a double garage. All within this highly popular village with ideal links to OXFORD & BICESTER.

KINGSMERE FROM £366,396

HELP TO BUY PRICE

The Canterbury is a four bedroom detached home, It has an open plan fitted kitchen and dining area including integrated appliances, French doors, Downstairs cloakroom and study. Upstairs benefits from an en suite and built-in wardrobes to bedroom one

Upper Heyford £549,995

MOVE IN FOR CHRISTMAS

The Truro is a five bedroom house with a superb open plan fitted kitchen and family area including integrated appliances, sitting room featuring french doors to the rear garden, useful utility room and en suites to bedrooms one and two

AMBROSDEN £595,000

DOUBLE GARAGE & ANNEXE

The Baroque is one of the signature homes of the development, with four double bedrooms, three reception rooms, and a superb kitchen diner. One of the key features is the double garage with studio room over, making an ideal home office or guest room.

TINGEWICK From £639,995

SOLD S.T.C

The Ascot is a five bedroom house with an open plan kitchen with family area including integrated appliances and bi-fold doors to the rear garden. Upstairs features dressing rooms and en suites to two bedrooms. All set within the historic village of Tingewick, surrounded by farm and pastureland,

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5 Market Square, Bicester

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BICESTER

Bure Park £450,000

NEW INSTRUCTION

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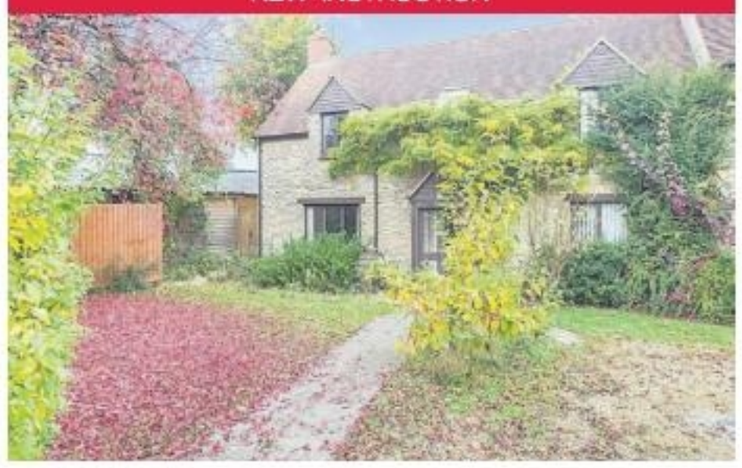
Bletchingdon £480,000

NEW INSTRUCTION

Set on a DECEPTIVELY LARGE PLOT is this IMMACULATE home within this HIGHLY REGARDED VILLAGE. With SUPERB TRANSPORT LINKS to OXFORD & BICESTER

Lower Heyford £550,000

NEW INSTRUCTION



Set within the PICTURESQUE VILLAGE is this spacious family home which offers ample accommodation across two floors. The property offers superb transport links and is offered to the market with NO ONWARD CHAIN

Southwold £237,500

SOLD SSTC

SIMILAR WANTED. Offered to the market with NO ONWARD CHAIN is this 2 DOUBLE BEDROOM home set in a quiet cul de sac. With REPLACEMENT WINDOWS AND DOORS & NEW BOILER along with a LARGER THAN AVERAGE GARDEN and OFF ROAD PARKING

Bure Park £500,000

SOLD SSTC

Located at the bottom of a private drive is this SUPERBLY PRESENTED, FOUR DOUBLE BEDROOM home. Having been EXTENDED by the current owners and upgraded throughout it really does offer the opportunity to simply move in and enjoy the space and finish.

Kings End £370,000

SOLD SSTC

SIMILAR WANTED. Set in a larger than average plot in a cul de sac within a mile of Bicester Town Centre. With light and spacious accommodation throughout along with beautifully presented gardens.

Upper Heyford £425,000

VILLAGE LOCATION

Set in the stunning North Oxfordshire countryside and offering fantastic transport links to the M40 & Bicester North Station. This immaculate home is defined by a superb kitchen diner living space that spans the width of the property and opens to the rear garden.

Langford Village £485,000

DOUBLE GARAGE

Set in an enviable plot at the bottom of a desirable cul de sac is this light and spacious family home.

Launton £535,000

VILLAGE LOCATION

This extended home sits at the bottom of a cul de sac and enjoys stunning views over open fields. The property is well presented throughout and finished to a high standard.

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CARTERTON

FARINGDON £87,500

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SHILTON PARK £190,000

SOLD ON 6 WEEK CHALLENGE

Beautifully presented top floor apartment located on the Shilton Park development. Offering well planned accommodation. EPC Rating C.

CARTERTON £265,000

Tucked away in this cul de sac close to Carterton town centre we find this stunning two bedroom semi detached home. EPC Rating AWAITED.

SHILTON PARK £299,995

A well presented middle terraced town house located on 'Shilton Park'. Set over three levels this versatile property really would make the ideal family home. EPC Rating C.

SHILTON PARK £300,000

SOLD ON THE 6 WEEK CHALLENGE

Three bedroom end of terrace home on the edge of the popular Shilton Park development. With garage and private parking. EPC Rating AWAITED.

SHILTON PARK £330,000

A beautifully presented detached family home tucked away on the popular Shilton Park development. EPC Rating AWAITED.

CARTERTON £460,000

Larger than average detached bungalow with the added bonus of a one bedroom annex. Located in a popular Road close to all local amenities. EPC Rating AWAITED

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3 BED — ABINGDON TOWN CENTRE

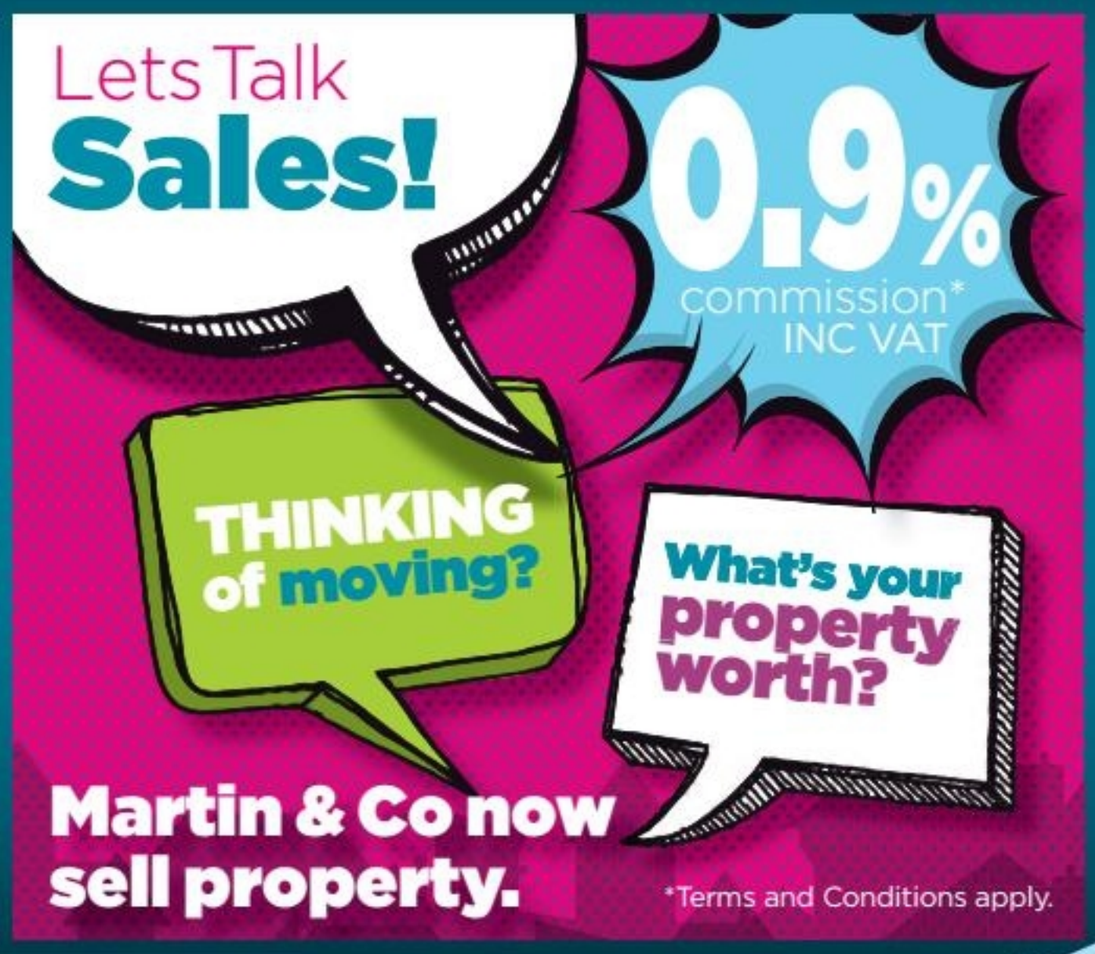
The last apartment available in this desirable TOWN CENTRE DEVELOPMENT. Offering 3 double bedrooms and 2 bathrooms with ALLOCATED PARKING. **£275,000**

1 BED — ABINGDON

One bedroom apartment with views over the River Ock, on the first floor of this POPULAR RETIREMENT complex. Benefits from beautiful communal gardens, residents lounge and laundry facilities, with a lift to all floors. **£150,000**

2 BED — LOWER RADLEY

Situated in the lovely village of RADLEY in Oxfordshire, is this two bedroomed retirement park home. THE PROPERTY IS FOR THE OVER 50s, **£90,000**



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1 BED — RADLEY, ABINGDON

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ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Jon's time to go alone

By James Richings

FOR the last 12 years, multi-instrumentalist and singer Jon Boden has performed with others but this time his backing band will be a little different.

The 39-year-old was one of the co-founders and and lead singer of popular folk band Bellowhead.

However, now that the band are no more following their final gig at Oxford Town Hall on May Day this year, the American-born musician hopes he can still entertain fans with his solo work as he is gearing up for a gig at the O2 Academy this evening, Thursday, November 10.

"Well it's just me on stage with a guitar a fiddle and a concertina, but a lot of it's quite upbeat and punchy," he told the Guardian.

"I'll be playing a mix of material from my solo albums, songs from 'A Folk Song A Day' and a fair few from the Bellowhead oeuvre.

"I'm also going to be trying out an experiment where I lead a short singing workshop immediately before the gig for ticket holders.

"I'll teach some choruses and maybe some harmonies.

"It should be fun!"

As well as going on a solo UK tour and being one half of the folk duo Spiers and Boden, Jon's name will forever be associated with Bellowhead as the band is incredibly popular in a number of European countries.

Formed by John Spiers and Boden in 2004, the two were on their way to a festival but got stuck in gridlock traffic, when they decided that the longer they were on the road, the more people they would contact to join them at the festival they were due to gig at.

In the end, musicians Benji Kirkpatrick, Rachael McShane, Paul Sartin, Pete Flood, Brendan Kelly, Justin Thurgur, Andy Mellon and Giles Lewin completed the initial line-up, which saw them release five studio albums, tour all over the world and be nominated for numerous awards.

When talking about Bellowhead being no more, Jon said: "It feels like it was all a strange but an amazing dream that I have now woken up from."

• Jon Boden

"And my solo career will most probably not be on the same terms as successful like Bellowhead, although I'm going to give it my best shot!"

He added: "It's good occasionally to play to an audience who have no idea who you are to be reminded just how vital an appreciative audience is.

"A good audience makes you play and sing so much better.

"It can take you into a different zone on a good night."

Doors open at 6.30pm and tickets cost £20.25.

Dickens' tale brought to life

ONE of Charles Dickens' most famous novels will be brought to life at Oxford's Burton Taylor Studio when Lionel Bart's musical 'Oliver!' is performed.

Classics such as 'Food Glorious Food', 'Where is Love', 'As Long As He Needs Me' and 'I'd Do Anything', will be heard at the Beaumont Street venue from Monday, November 14, to Saturday, November 19.

Performed by Oxford Operatic Society, the Dickens tale tells the story of Oliver Twist, a young orphan in Victorian England who escapes from his orphanage to find a new life in the city.

However, he is introduced to the Artful Dodger and the charismatic but manipulative Fagin who offers him as much danger as freedom, as for every new friend he meets, such as the warm-hearted Nancy, there are also perilous rivals.

And with actors Ben Wilson and Mason Chandler-Wickens sharing the role of the title character, they hope the younger audience members will be able to learn about one of the world's most recognisable novels turned musicals.

Ben told the Guardian: "They can expect to get a real idea of what it was like for Oliver, where he lived and what he did after his family were taken away from him.

"It's about a little boy who goes through a journey through his life and even though it starts really sad, it carries on and progresses to be happier."

Mason said: "There's lots of twists and turns in the story.

"And you can gain a lot of intelligence from watching it (live on stage) as it can inspire you to go and audition and may be get a really good part.

"I just love acting and I wanted to come to an audition. It's what I want to be, what I want to do."

Tickets cost from £11.50 to £21 with the matinée performances starting at 2.30pm and the evening shows at 7.30pm. The play is suitable for anyone over eight.

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OPERA ANYWHERE

ENTERTAINMENT & LISTINGS

Fri, Nov 11, 7.30pm
Cornerstone Arts Centre, Didcot
HARROGATE
I dream about you young. When I'm asleep you're as young as the girl I met. Time passes. Roles change. People become different versions of themselves. From lover, to father, to husband, one man craves the past but knows his desire for it will destroy his family. Each one of us is going to sit down one day and not be able to stand up, like we've disappeared into ourselves.

Fri, Nov 11, 7.30pm
Oxford Playhouse, Oxford
THE PASADENA ROOF ORCHESTRA
Enjoy beautifully arranged songs from Irving Berlin, Ray Noble, Cole Porter and their contemporaries, and re-live the electrifying hot jazz from Fletcher Henderson and Duke Ellington.

Sat, Nov 12, 7.30pm
Unicorn Theatre, Abingdon
PALMERSTON
Palmerston are returning to The Unicorn Theatre to celebrate their five-year anniversary.

Sat, Nov 12, 7.30pm
Oxford Playhouse, Oxford
RICH HALL
Rich Hall's critically acclaimed grouchy, deadpan style has established him as a master of absurdist irony and the king of rapid-fire wit. The award-winning Montana

COMEDY

native is renowned for his carefully crafted tirades, expert banter and delightful musical sequences. And now he's saddling-up and taking his wagon to tour the UK once again.
The Perrier Award-winner has been described as a transatlantic messenger, lampooning each country he visits with his common sense. He leaves his audience hanging on every word, and has won fans from all over the globe.

Sat, Nov 12, 7.30pm
St Giles, Oxford
ST GILES ORCHESTRA
Oxford's favourite nonprofessional orchestra return for another year. St Giles Orchestra returns to Cornerstone for its annual concert of classical music, this time with a romantic 'Romeo and Juliet' theme - celebrating the star-crossed lovers and the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's death.

Sat, Nov 12, 8pm
The Mill Arts Centre, Banbury
YES PLEASE!
YES PLEASE, leading UK Yes Tribute Band, faithfully reproduce this intricate, impassioned and inspirational music with full vocal harmonies, authentic 70s sounds, and an earthy energetic attitude.

Thu, Nov 10, 6.30pm
O2 Academy, Oxford
JON BODEN
Former Bellowhead frontman Jon Boden has quickly become one of the leading traditional music performers of his generation. Swapping Bellowhead's exuberant big band vibe for more simple, pared down sound, Boden embarks on his first ever solo tour.
John will also lead an early evening singing workshop from 7pm on the night, personally teaching choruses and harmonies for songs that will be performed in his main set. (No previous singing experience is required.)

Mon, Nov 14 – Sat, Nov 19
Oxford Playhouse, Oxford
OLIVER!
Consider yourself at home as Oxford Operatic Society returns to the Oxford Playhouse with their latest production, Oliver!
Oliver Twist, a young orphan in Victorian England, escapes from his orphanage to a new life in the city. But falling in with pickpocket the Artful Dodger and the charismatic but manipulative Fagin offers him as much danger as it does freedom. For every new friend he meets, like the warm-hearted Nancy, there are dangerous foes...

Tue, Nov 15 – Sat, Nov 19
Oxford Playhouse, Oxford
SUMMER AND SMOKE
Alma, a preacher's daughter, and John, the carefree son of a doctor, have known each other since they were children, residing next door to each other in the small town of Glorious Hill, Mississippi at the turn of century.
The first UK performance of this tumultuous play in ten years, Summer and Smoke follows the lives of Alma and John as they grow up and learn that, sometimes, life has things in store for you that you just don't expect.

Tue, Nov 15 – Sun, Jan 8
The Theatre, Chipping Norton
ROBINSON CRUSOE
A tale loved through the ages of shipwrecks and desert islands, retold as you've never seen it before, with pirates, mermaids, cowboys and the fearsome Pirate Queen, Betty Babcock!
With hilarious routines and deeply daft mayhem, this exotic treasure chest of a show has all the stunning design and fabulous original music that Chipping Norton audiences have come to know and love.

Wed, Nov 16, 9.30pm
Fishes Sports Night
O2 ACADEMY, OXFORD
A stone's throw away from halls, Fishies has a loose attitude, fancy dress themes, drinks deals and all out mayhem.

Wed, Nov 16, 8pm
Corn Exchange, Wallingford
ALAN BENNETT
The live Q&A follows a feature documentary that takes us inside Bennett's world; from his home in Yorkshire to an awards ceremony in New York and a ride on the East Coast rail line.

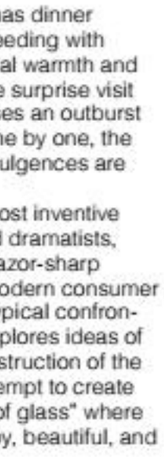
Fri, Nov 18, 6.30pm
O2 Academy, Oxford
LITTLE RED
Little Red are a musical trio inspired by artists such as The Staves, A.A Bondy and PJ Harvey. Their debut album, Sticks and Stones, and latest EPs, The Huntsman and Teeth, have all received critical acclaim.

Sat, Nov 19, 11.30am and 2pm
Pegasus Theatre, Oxford
BABY BOOGIE NOVEMBER
Dancin' Oxford returns with another Baby Boogie day.
Kick off your shoes and turn up the volume for disco delight with you toddlers.
Try out our pre-disco workshop or take a break in the chill-out zone with free activities in the cafe.

Sun, Nov 20, 2pm
Cornerstone Arts Centre, Didcot
JACK AND THE BEANSTALK
Imaginative puppetry gives this classic tale a fresh and funny spin. Was it a dream or did I hear a talking bean? Jack lives on a small farm with his mum and very little to eat. He likes to talk to the birds, his cow and anyone who will listen. Imagine his surprise when he swaps his cow for some magic beans and starts to hear a whispering in the breeze and a giant rumble in the sky... Charming and inventive with plenty of interaction, an enormous beanstalk, bags of gold and a smelly old giant, Jack and the Beans Talk is a cautionary tale about what might happen if you throw things out of the window!

Mon, Nov 21, 10.30am
The Theatre, Chipping Norton
RELAXED FILM SCREENING: WHITE CHRISTMAS
Relaxed Screenings are open to all but have some changes made to make the event more accessible to people who might find a standard cinema screening challenging, including those living with dementia and those with learning disabilities and their carers. Familiarisation Visits before the event date can be arranged for those attending relaxed performances and a Visual Story of The Theatre itself is available.

Tue, Nov 22, 7pm
New Theatre, Oxford
DAVID ESSEX
Internationally renowned singer, composer and actor David Essex OBE has announced his first major tour in over four years. The 21 date UK tour taking place in November will see him perform much loved hits spanning over his entire 50 year repertoire. David first shot to fame when he went to an audition for the London production of the musical Godspell and was chosen by enthusiastic US producers for the role of Jesus. He received major awards and some ecstatic reviews which saw him lead a cast at the Roundhouse and then at the West End for two years.



Tue, Nov 22, 4.30pm
The Mill Arts Centre, Banbury
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Tue, Nov 22 – Sat, Nov 26
Oxford Playhouse, Oxford
IN THE REPUBLIC OF HAPPINESS
The family Christmas dinner seems to be proceeding with the usual superficial warmth and humour, before the surprise visit of Uncle Bob causes an outburst of raw emotion. One by one, the family's darker indulgences are revealed...
One of the UK's most inventive and accomplished dramatists, Crimp's play is a razor-sharp commentary on modern consumer society. With his typical confrontational bite, he explores ideas of happiness, the destruction of the family, and the attempt to create a life "like a pane of glass" where everything is happy, beautiful, and shallow.

Thu, Nov 24, 7pm
O2 Academy, Oxford
BRIAN FALLON & THE CROWES
Brian Fallon supports his debut solo album, Painkillers, with a new UK tour. Bursting at its seams with huge hooks, big choruses, and

enormous heart, Painkillers marks the first solo album from the American rocker, known far and wide as singer-guitarist of The Gaslight Anthem.

Fri, Nov 25, 8pm
The Mill Arts Centre, Banbury
OMID DJALILI
Award winning comedian and actor Omid Djalili known for his legendary stand-up performances is back on a nationwide tour! Intelligent, sometimes provocative and always entertaining, his stand-up is a hugely energetic and captivating comedy master-class. His credits range from Hollywood to television and the West End stage. Earning praise across the world for his performances, Omid recently starred in Dickensian on BBC1 and Lucky Man on Sky1.

Fri, Nov 25 – Sun, Jan 1
Oxford Playhouse, Oxford
CINDERELLA
Are you ready for a gigantic sprinkle of Playhouse magic this Christmas? Then get set to join Cinderella on a midnight coach ride through pantoland!
There's only one problem: Cinders' ugly sisters and wicked step-mum make her scrape and clean all day and it's beginning to make her feel sad. She needs backup. She needs you! Plus some support from her best friend Buttons (who happens to be a mouse) and maybe a bit of help from a certain fairy godmothery-shaped someone.

Sun, Nov 27, 7pm
New Theatre, Oxford
FRANK TURNER & THE SLEEPING SOULS
Frank Turner & The Sleeping Souls have announced details of a headline tour of the UK later this year. The Get Better Tour will take in 20 cities throughout November and December.

Mon, Nov 28 – Wed, Nov 30
New Theatre, Oxford
THE MOUSETRAP
The Mousetrap is famous around the world for being the longest running show of any kind in the history of theatre, with over 25,000 performances and now the 60th anniversary production is back by popular demand following a record breaking sell out week. The scene is set when a group of people gathered in a country house cut off by the snow discover, to their horror, that there is a murderer in their midst. Who can it be? One by one the suspicious characters reveal their sordid pasts until at the last, nerve-shredding moment the identity and the motive are finally revealed.

Wed, Nov 30, 7.45pm
The Mill Arts Centre, Banbury
RORY BREMNER
Fresh from a sell-out run at Edinburgh, Rory's new mission is to make sense (and nonsense) of a world where Boris Johnson is Foreign Secretary, Donald Trump is a Presidential Candidate, and Brexit means Brexit.

Sat, Nov 26, 2.30pm

COMEDY

The Mill Arts Centre, Banbury
BURGLAR BILL
Capturing the spirit of the book, and with an exciting set featuring lots of windows to climb through, Burglar Bill and Burglar Betty tell this much loved story with the help of puppets, music, song and dance.

Sun, Nov 27, 7.30pm
O2 Academy, Oxford
AVATAR – 'FEATHER & FLESH'
Sweden's Avatar hit the road with their groundbreaking new album, Feathers & Flesh

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Compere

Paul Ricketts is an award winning comic who since 2005 has been entertaining audiences across the UK and beyond. Paul has developed into a much sought after performer on the comedy circuit. Sometimes silly, serious or surreal, sometimes autobiographical, political or near the knuckle - but always funny!

"material is smart as well as funny" **The Scotsman**

"excels as a natural story-teller" **Three Weeks**

Gerry K is anecdotal, observational and refreshingly honest in style, Gerry's comedy is enriched by a somewhat unique perspective: Gerry was born in the East End, but grew up in rural Essex, as a rare black face in an almost totally white and very parochial area.

'Easily the best act of the night. He read the room brilliantly and his comedy stories were excellent'. **blogpreston.co.uk**

Short spots
Two shorter spots in the middle section

Hilary Fox

Johnny Murph

Headline Act

Funmbi Omotayo's friendly, instantly likeable style won him the award for Best Newcomer at the Black Entertainment Comedy Awards. He has since gone on to win the prestigious Leicester Square New Act of the Year competition in 2012.
Gently paced stories and anecdotes are delivered warmly and confidently. Funmbi is creating a huge storm on the comedy circuit with tales of living in Hackney, his Nigerian roots and his hilarious day to day observations. It's been an amazing 12 months for Funmbi, he has appeared on **The John Bishop Show (BBC One), Play To The Whistle (ITV1)** and **I'm A Celebrity Get Me Out of Here Now!(ITV2).**
"A charming young comic...he's got the jokes to back up his charm. Soon, he could be playing to thousands" **Time Out**

Caution: this performance will contain some adult humour as well as occasional bad language

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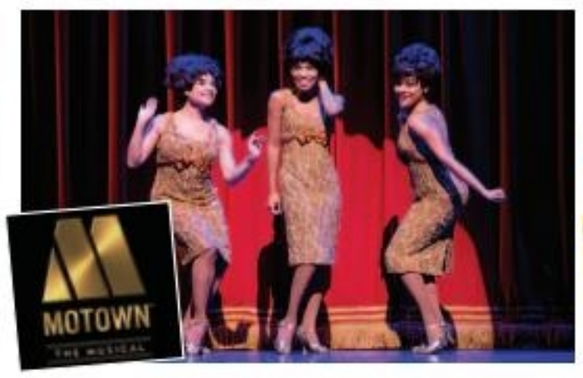

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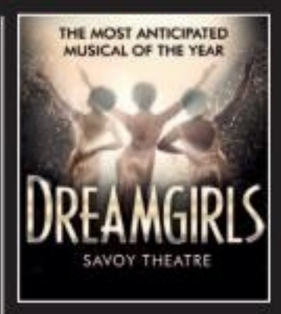

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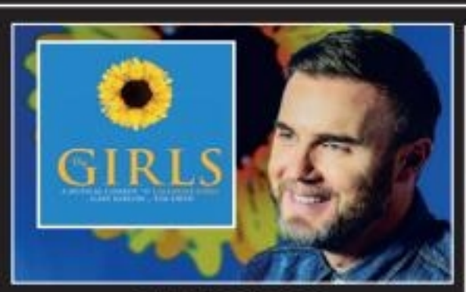

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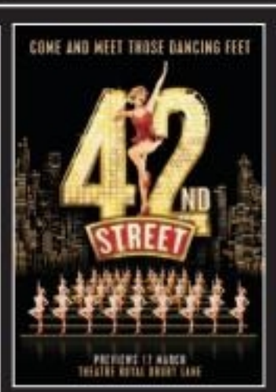

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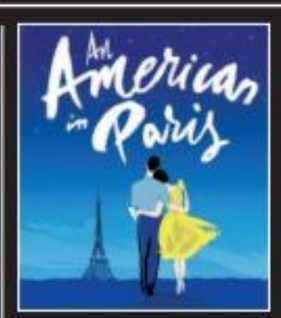

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It's Christmas...!

The countdown is now on to finding the perfect gift

IT may only be the start of November but before you know it, Christmas will be here.

I know what you're thinking, 'hasn't that come round fast?'

It happens every year when we wake up and suddenly realize that Christmas is within touching distance, and like most people, you want to have a Christmas to remember...for all the right reasons.

When Christmas draws ever closer, no-body wants to be stressed out over the festive period, so with a little bit of planning, this can literally be the Christmas that you and your family have always dreamed of.

Every year, we are always guilty of buying at least one present that we know will be never used by our loved ones, but we still go ahead and buy it anyway.

It happens every year and before you know it, that one gift is collecting dust in your spare room with the person who you bought it for, forgetting that it even existed.

Why do we do this? It's because our minds are suddenly locked into thinking that we must purchase everything we sets our eyes on.

Try and get out of that habit this year by getting something for your loved ones that you know they will enjoy – a gift that is consistently used is a clear indication your money has been well spent.

The retail possibilities are endless – clothes, bikes, hobbies, toys, mobile phones, gardening , gadgets, you name it....

There is something for everyone, and if you spend your time and money wisely with a fair amount of planning, you could have the Christmas you have always wanted.

And if you're really struggling to find a present for a loved one, how is this for a suggestion?

Presents don't always have to be materialistic – it's the memories that last a lifetime, and with Christmas just around the corner, tickets to a festive show or a pantomime can sometimes be the perfect gift for some.

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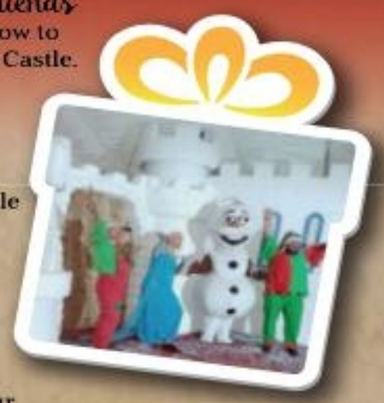

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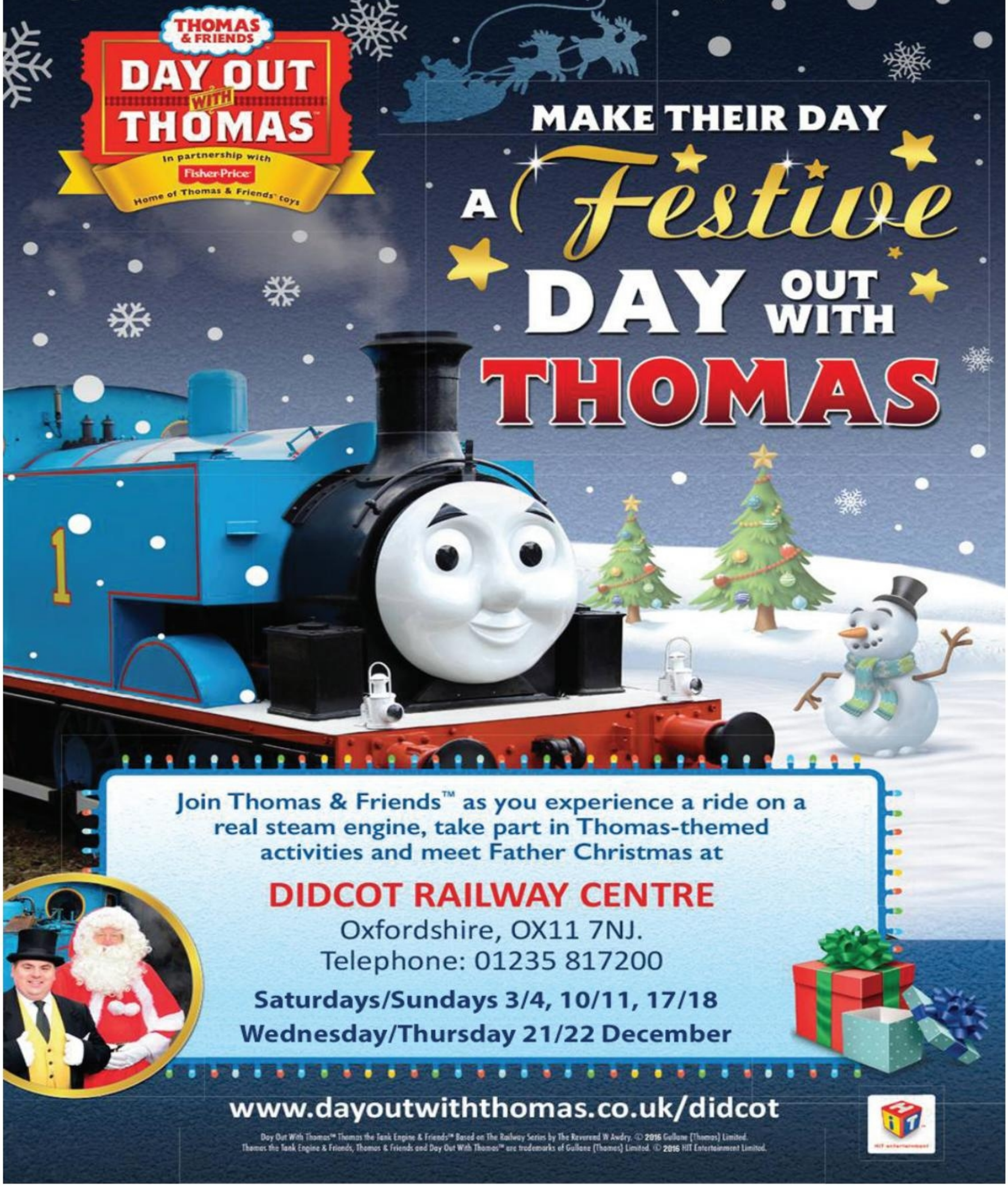

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Simply blown away by new Ford

I DON'T know about you but I remember the good old Fords from my day, such as the Ford Escort RS1600i and the bonking-mad Escort RS Turbo Mk1 & Mk2.

I myself had an Mk1 Escort Mexico for about three years and no car has ever made me feel as alive at the wheel as that old Ford did.

Sadly, I doubt I will ever get the chance to own another as the prices now for an Mk1 Mexico are just into gigabucks.

Happily, though, Ford has just introduced a new and updated version of the Focus RS - the 2.3 EcoBoost - and I have to say that it is probably the most eagerly anticipated fast Ford for a number of years.

Power and Efficiency:

Powered by an inline four-cylinder, 2.3-litre EcoBoost turbocharged petrol engine with 440Nm of Torque and 350PS of Ford Power, it has a 0-62 time of about 4.7 seconds and then to finish off a top speed of about 165mph.

The New Focus RS also gets Ford's Performance All-Wheel Drive system that is frankly staggering – and, if

By **Anthony Yates**

that's not enough, you also get four drive modes to play with - Normal, Sport, Race and Drift Mode, which is frankly the most fun you will ever have with the Focus RS.

Design & Technology

Following in the footsteps of all its predecessors, the Focus RS comes with the normal hot-hatch styling on the outside, along with a vast amount of hidden electronic wizardry that you could possibly ever wish to shake a stick at and some technology built in, such as Dynamic Torque Vectoring Control which helps keep the grip levels to maximum and offers precise cornering abilities, along with race-inspired suspension components from Ohlins to improve road holding.

Inside is like a normal Focus but with extra gauges and Recaro seating along with some nice little ideas like the little rubber door edge strips that pop out from just inside the door edge to protect it from damage and then retreat back inside once the door is closed. That feature alone will make you go all tingly inside.

On the road:

The Focus RS feels fantastic and has the most outstanding driving dynamics and power-to-weight ratio that I have ever felt.

Also, no matter what mode you decide to 'play', the Focus RS will keep you entertained for what can only be described as possibly the rest of time.

The RS also stops as well as it goes and that's thanks to its massive Brembo four-piston monoblock callipers and 350mm ventilated front disc, which deliver a powerful and progressive feel.

To sum up:

ALL in all, Ford have once again created a remarkable piece of engineering.

Hats off to the boys from Ford for making all my dreams come true once again. I, for one, will be looking to buy such a beast in the very near future.

To Ford, I say 'Thank you and welcome back!'

• *Focus RS 2.3 EcoBoost*

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65	Vauxhall Zafira Tourer 1.4 i Turbo 16v SRi 5dr Silver Petrol 9,497	£12,960
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*£500 Free Fuel offer not available on VIVA, Corsa Sting, Corsa Sting R and Corsa Diamond. £500 Free Fuel is not given in cash. Offer available on eligible, selected new vehicle orders from 11-14 November 2016 and registered by 30 November 2016. Terms, conditions and exclusions apply. Pre-reg Corsa Sting Eden Cash Price £9,019 - Customer Deposit £99 – Total amount of credit £8,920– 48 monthly payments of £99 – Optional final payment £3,656 - based on 6,000 miles per year. Viva Cash Price £ 8,595 – Customer Deposit £99 - Total amount of credit £8,496 – 48 monthly payments of £99 – Optional final payment £3,744 - based on 6,000 miles per year. Mokka X Cash Price £19,600 – Part exchange allowance £3,000 - Customer Deposit £99 - Total amount of credit £16,501 –47 monthly payments of £259.89 – Optional final payment £6,080 - Representative APR 4.0% - total amount payable £21,393.83 based on 5,000 miles per year. Astra SRI Cash Price £18,200 – Part exchange allowance £3,000 - Customer Deposit £99 - Total amount of credit £15,101 –48 monthly payments of £219.99 – Optional final payment £6,698 - Representative APR 4.9% - total amount payable £20,356.52 - based on 6,000 miles per year. Corsa Energy Cash Price £13,050 – Part exchange allowance £3,000 - Customer Deposit £99 - Total amount of credit £9,951 –47 monthly payments of £149.90 – Optional final payment £4,014 - Representative APR 5.1% - total amount payable £14,158.30 based on 5,000 miles per year. Part exchange allowance regardless of condition, age, or mileage. Other mileage totals are available. The 2 years free servicing must be carried out at Manufacturer recommended intervals and is to be redeemed only at an Eden dealerships. This promotion is available on the above models and is available on Eden Vauxhall stock only. Finance is subject to status, terms and conditions apply. Applicant must be 18 years or over. Finance by Black Horse finance St William House Tresillian Terrace Cardiff CF10 5BH. Excess mileage will be charged on the n the above vehicles. These offers supersede any other offer and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. For further details, please contact your local Eden branch.

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Fuel consumption figures for the Jazz 1.3 i-VTEC EX Manual mpg (l/100km): Urban 45.6 (6.2), Extra Urban 62.8 (4.5), Combined 55.4 (5.1). CO_2 emissions: 120g/km. Fuel consumption figures sourced from official EU-regulated laboratory test results, are provided for comparison purposes and may not reflect real-life driving experience. Model Shown: Jazz 1.3 i-VTEC EX Manual in Brilliant Sporty Blue Metallic at £16,645 On The Road (OTR). Terms and Conditions: New retail Jazz EX 1.3 i-VTEC petrol ordered from 01 October 2016 to 31 December 2016 and registered by 31 December 2016. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. Not to be used along with any other offers currently available. *0% APR representative Honda Aspirations (PCP): Minimum customer deposit 20%, maximum customer deposit 30%. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due, the vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the maximum annual mileage has not been exceeded. Excess mileage charge includes VAT at current rate. Indemnities may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Johnsons Cars Limited are credit brokers, not lenders. Credit provided by Honda Finance Europe Plc. Cain Road, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 1HL. Honda Finance Europe Plc. is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, Financial Services Register number 312541.**5 Years' £555 Servicing: Please visit www.honda.co.uk/cars/offers †Reference only specific to Sportrax 90. Johnsons Cars Ltd (Firm Reference Number: 512460) are an Appointed Representative of ITC Compliance Ltd, and are authorised & regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (their registration number is 313486) and are permitted to advise on and arrange General Insurance contracts. Registered Name: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Registered Office: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Empire Court, Albert Street, Redditch, Worcestershire B97 4DA Registration No. 3716766 VAT Registration No. GB927551606.

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Fuel consumption figures for the Civic Sport 1.4 i-VTEC Manual mpg (l/100km): Urban 42.2 (6.7), Extra Urban 60.1 (4.7), Combined 52.3 (5.4). CO_2 emissions: 129g/km. Fuel consumption figures sourced from official EU-regulated laboratory test results, are provided for comparison purposes and may not reflect real-life driving experience. Model Shown: Civic Sport 1.4 i-VTEC Manual in Milano Red at £18,565 On The Road (OTR). Terms and Conditions: New retail Civic Sport 1.4 i-VTEC petrol ordered from 01 October 2016 to 31 December 2016 and registered by 31 December 2016. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. Not to be used along with any other offers currently available. ^Honda deposit contribution: £500 Honda deposit contribution on new Civic Sport 1.4 models purchased through Honda Aspirations. *0% APR representative Honda Aspirations (PCP): Minimum customer deposit 20%, maximum customer deposit 30%. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due, the vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the maximum annual mileage has not been exceeded. Excess mileage charge includes VAT at current rate. Indemnities may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Johnsons Cars Limited are credit brokers, not lenders. Credit provided by Honda Finance Europe Plc. Cain Road, Bracknell, Berkshire RG12 1HL. Honda Finance Europe Plc. is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority, Financial Services Register number 312541. **5 Years' £555 Servicing: Please visit www.honda.co.uk/cars/offers. Johnsons Cars Ltd (Firm Reference Number: 512460) are an Appointed Representative of ITC Compliance Ltd, and are authorised & regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority (their registration number is 313486) and are permitted to advise on and arrange General Insurance contracts. Registered Name: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Registered Office: Johnsons Cars Ltd, Empire Court, Albert Street, Redditch, Worcestershire B97 4DA Registration No. 3716766 VAT Registration No. GB927551606.

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2014 (14) **Peugeot Partner 850S LI HDI 90 1,6 Diesel Van,** in White, One Owner, Full Service History, CD/Radio, Electric Windows & Mirrors, ABS, Drivers Airbag, Remote Central Locking, Steel/Mesh Bulkhead, Side Loading Door, Ply Lined, c46,766 Miles... **£5,995+vat**

2011 (11) **Vauxhall Vivaro 2900CDTI 2.0 6 Seat Crew Van,** in White, One Owner, Full Service History, CD/Radio, ABS, Drivers Airbag, Remote Central Locking, 6 Seats, Twin Side Access Doors, 6 Speed Manual Transmission, Tow Bar, c91,669 Miles..... **£7,495+vat**

2011 (11) **Volkswagen Caddy C20 TDI 75 1.6 Diesel Van,** in Silver, CD/Radio, ABS, Drivers Airbag, Remote Central Locking, Side Loading Door, Ply Lined, Rear Wash/Wipe, Heated Rear Window, Security Locks to Rear Doors, Service History (including recent cambelt & water pump), c64,320 Miles..... **£5,995 no vat**

2011 (61) **Renault Kangoo ML20 DCI 85 1461cc Diesel Van,** in Blue, One Owner, Service History, Sat Nav, Hands Free Phone Capability, Full Bulkhead, Side Loading Door, Long MOT, c52,564 Miles..... **£3,995 + vat**

2007 (57) **Ford Transit Connect T230 LX90 1753cc LWB High Roof Diesel Van,** in Grey Metallic, 2 owners, Service History, Air Con, Electric Pack, Full Bulkhead, Twin Side Loading Doors, c75,653 Miles..... **£3,750 + vat**

2006 (55) **Vauxhall Combo 2000 CDTI 16V 1.7 5 Seat Crew Van,** in White, CD/Radio, Parrot Hands Free, Phone Capability, ABS, Twin Airbags, Central Locking, 5 Seats, Twin Side Access Doors, Cargo Guard, Roof Bars, c88,663 Miles..... **£2,995 + vat**

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2009 (09) **BMW 318D M Sport Auto 2.0 4 Door Diesel Saloon,** in Grey Metallic, Service History, Air Conditioning, Electric Windows & Mirrors, Cruise Control, Remote Central Locking with Two Keys, Front Fog Lamps, Alloy Wheels, c72,909 Miles..... **£8,495**

2005 (05) **Suzuki Jimny VVTS 1.3 4x4 Petrol 3 Door Estate Car,** in Beige Metallic, 2 Owners, Full Service History, CD/Radio, Electric Front Windows & Mirrors, ABS, Twin Airbags, Central Locking, Selectable 4 Wheel Drive, Heated Rear Window, Rear Wash Wipe, Front Fog Lamps, Alloy Wheels, Roof Rails, Only c63,333 Miles!..... **£3,995**

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2008 (08) **Fiat Punto Dynamic Sport 16V 1.4 3 Door Petrol Hatchback,** in Grey Metallic, One Owner, Air Conditioning, CD/Radio, Electric Front Windows & Mirrors, ABS, Multiple Airbags, Central Locking, 6 Speed Transmission, Rear Wash/Wipe, Heated Rear Screen, Front Fog Lamps, Alloy Wheels, c51,588 Miles, For Sale on Customers Behalf..... **£2,395**

2005 (05) **Fiat Panda Dynamic 1242cc 5 Door Petrol Hatchback,** in Blue, Service History (including recent service) CD, Electric Front Windows, Only c27,356 Miles!, For Sale on Customers Behalf..... **£2,295**

2002 (02) **Volkswagen Polo S TDI 1.4 3 Door Diesel Hatchback,** 2 Owners, Air Conditioning, Radio/Cassette Electric Front Windows & Mirrors, ABS, Twin Airbags - Central Locking, Rear Wash/Wipe, eated Rear Screen, c86,360 Miles..... **£1,695**

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2012 (62) MAZDA 2 TAMURA 1.3, 5 door, white, grey trim, c/l, e/w, aircon, alloys, cd, lrm £5,995

2006 (56) MINI COOPER 1.6 CHILLI, cream, half black leathrr trim, a/c, c/l, e/w, alloys..... £3,795

2007 (07) NISSAN NOTE 1.4 SE, 5 door, blue grey trim, c/l, e/w, aircon, alloys £2,795

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014 (64) KIA SOUL, 1.6 Connect Plus CRDi, white, black trim, c/l, e/w, aircon, satnav, rear parking camera, cruise control, alloys, CD, 1 owner £11,495

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2014	(64)	KIA SOUL, 1.6 Connect Plus CRDi, white, black trim, c/l, e/w, aircon, satnav, rear parking camera, cruise control, alloys, CD, 1 owner £11,495
2012	(62)	MAZDA 2 TAMURA 1.3, 5 door, white, grey trim, c/l, e/w, aircon, alloys, cd, lrm.....£5,995
2006	(06)	HONDA CRV EXECUTIVE 4X4 AUTOMATIC, met grey, black leather trim, c/l, e/w, aircon, alloys, sat nav, sunroof.....£5,495
2011	(11)	HYUNDAI i20 COMFORT 1.4 CRDi, 3 door, met grey, grey trim, c/l, aircon, alloys, cd, lrm £4,795
2006	(56)	MINI COOPER 1.6 CHILLI, cream, half black leathrr trim, a/c, c/l, e/w, alloys £3,795
2005	(55)	VW GOLF, 1.9 TDI SE, 5 door, met grey, grey trim, c/l, e/w, aircon, alloys, cd.....£3,695
2005	(55)	VW POLO 1.4 SE TDI, 5 door, black, grey trim, c/l, e/w, aircon, sunroof, alloys, cd.....£3,495
2010	(60)	CITROEN C1 1.0 Vt, 3 door, red, grey trim cd, 1 owner £3,495
2007	(57)	FORD FIESTA 1.6 TDCI ZETEC CLIMATE, 5 door, met blue, grey trim, c/l, e/w, aircon, alloys, cd £2,995
2007	(07)	NISSAN NOTE 1.4 SE, 5 door, blue grey trim, c/l, e/w, aircon, alloys.....£2,795
2005	(05)	FORD FOCUS 1.6 GHIA, 5 door, met silver, grey trim, c/l, e/w, aircon, alloys, cd £2,495
2006	(55)	SKODA FABIA 1.4 AMBIENTE, 5 door, black with grey trim, c/l, e/w, aircon, cd £2,495
2006	(56)	VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.3 cdTi, black with grey trim, c/l, e/w, aircon, cd £2,295
2003	(03)	VW GOLF 2.0 GTI, 5 door, met blue, grey trim, c/l, e/w, aircon, cd, fsh 2,195
2003	(53)	FORD STREET KA CABRIOLET 1.6 LUXURY, black, cream leather trim, c/l, e/w, aircon, alloys, cd, lrm £1,995

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Year: Dec 1999
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17
Colour: White
Price: £500

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SB35046 / 29.11.16

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Year: Dec 2006
Miles: 80,000
MOT: August 2017
Colour: Autumn Gold
Price: £4,250 ono

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Year: 2004
Miles: 66,300
Colour: Silver
MOT: August 2017
Price: £2,495 ono

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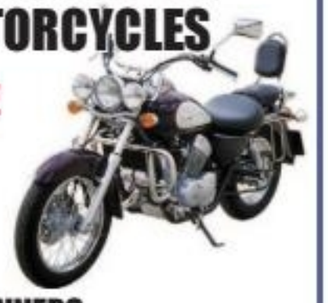

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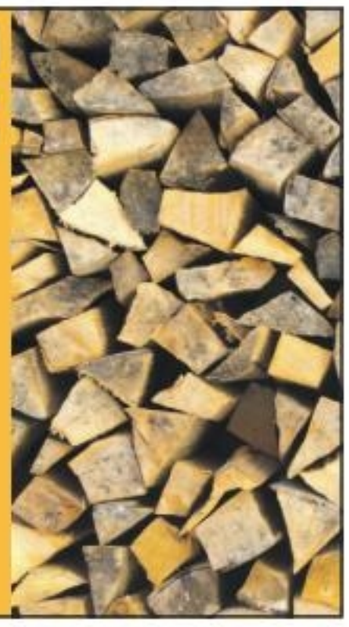

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MARK 48, slim, fit, GSOH, looking for loyal partner for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 424679**

YOUNG 70 widower, fit, lonely, 5ft 11ins, 11st, likes drives, walks, DIY, meals out, gardening, smoker, looking for lady to spend life with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 424687**

59YR old male, likes country walks, pub lunches, seeks lady for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 424685**

MALE 50 seeks mature, home loving lady, 60 plus who enjoys cosy nights in. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 424683**

MARTIN trustworthy, warm hearted, loving, reliable male, 45, 6ft, medium build, young at heart, GSOH, seeks female, 50-60 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3686 Box No: 424681**

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Massa hopes to give home fans a race to cheer about

By Adam Flinn

FELIPE Massa is expecting an "emotional" weekend when he races in front of his home fans for the final time at this weekend's Brazilian Grand Prix.

The Williams driver is contesting his penultimate race in Formula One on Sunday as he prepares to retire at the end of the season. Massa has enjoyed plenty of success at his home track of Interlagos in Sao Paulo, winning twice and getting three other podium finishes.

Most notably, he almost won the world championship in 2008 at the track after claiming victory, only for Lewis Hamilton to move up to fifth on the final lap to take the title by a single point.

After a tough 2016, Massa will be hoping for some strong points as Williams continues its battle with Force India for fourth in the constructors' championship.

"Interlagos is home, it's the place where I grew up, and it will be emotional racing there for the final time on such an amazing track," said Massa.

"I'm looking forward to enjoying every single lap and hopefully I can manage to finish the race with a good result.

"I have won twice at Interlagos and have finished on the podium many times over the years, and I hope we can get another one. It won't be easy, but I will do everything I can for my people and for Brazil in my last race at home."

Massa's team-mate Valtteri Bottas is also on the hunt for a good haul of points as he fights Sergio Perez for seventh in the drivers' standings.

His best result in Brazil is his fifth-place finish from last year, ending a lap down and behind both Mercedes and Ferraris.

He said: "First of all, I think this is going to be such a cool race for Felipe as he is retiring and it's going to be his last home race. I hope we can do well there, last year we did a good race and picked up some decent points.

"The new tarmac that was laid there a couple of years ago has made it very grippy since, so I really enjoy racing at this track."

• Lance Stroll was officially announced as Massa's replacement at Williams for 2017 last Thursday, with Bottas continuing with the Grove-based team for a fifth season.

• Felipe Massa on the podium in Brazil for Williams in 2014 (Picture courtesy of Williams Martini Racing)

Drivers' championship standings

1. Nico Rosberg	Mercedes	349
2. Lewis Hamilton	Mercedes	330
3. Daniel Ricciardo	Red Bull	242
4. Sebastian Vettel	Ferrari	187
5. Kimi Raikkonen	Ferrari	178
6. Max Verstappen	Red Bull	177
7. Sergio Perez	Force India	85
8. Valtteri Bottas	**Williams**	**85**
9. Nico Hulkenberg	Force India	60
10. Fernando Alonso	McLaren	52
11. Felipe Massa	**Williams**	**51**
12. Carlos Sainz	Toro Rosso	38
13. Romain Grosjean	**Haas**	**29**
14. Daniil Kvyat	Toro Rosso	25
15. Jenson Button	McLaren	21
16. Kevin Magnussen	**Renault**	**7**
17. Pascal Wehrlein	**Manor**	**1**
18. Stoffel Vandoorne	McLaren	1
19. Esteban Gutierrez	**Haas**	**1**
20. Jolyon Palmer	**Renault**	**0**
21. Marcus Ericsson	Sauber	0
22. Felipe Nasr	Sauber	0
23. Rio Haryanto	**Manor**	**0**
24. Esteban Ocon	**Manor**	**0**

Smith aims for 'solid result'

• Bradley Smith in action on the track last time out in Malaysia (Picture courtesy of Tech3)

BRADLEY Smith will be hoping to end the MotoGP season on a high as he contests his final race for Tech3 in Valencia on Sunday.

It has been a challenging season for the Oxford rider, made worse when he picked up a leg injury part way through the year and had to miss three races, including his home event at Silverstone.

Smith is currently languishing in 18th in the standings with 55 points, a far cry from his sixth place overall in 2015 when he finished every race in the top 10.

"After a long time together, this week will be my final outing with Tech3," said Smith.

"The guys who I have worked with have always done a great job, which gives me full motivation for Valencia where I really hope to end on a high.

"This year has not gone exactly to plan and it's a pity to be finishing the year much further back from where I wanted to be in the rankings.

"But the venue has been good to me so I am very confident about scoring a solid result for my team."

Smith is joining KTM's new MotoGP programme for 2017, along with current Tech3 team-mate Pol Espargaro.

Magnussen expected to join Haas

RENAULT Formula One driver Kevin Magnussen is widely expected to sign for Banbury-based Haas for 2017, it emerged yesterday.

The 24-year-old is understood to have signed a two-year deal to team up with Romain Grosjean and replace Mexican driver Esteban Gutierrez.

Magnussen joined Renault at the start of 2016, and has scored seven points in what has been viewed as a transitional year for the Enstone team.

But the Dane is thought to have become frustrated in the time it has taken for Renault to announce its second driver to partner Nico Hulkenberg, opting for a move to Haas instead.

Neither Haas nor Magnussen had confirmed the move as the Guardian went to print last night. Those in the frame for the second Renault seat include current driver Jolyon Palmer, both Manor racers Pascal Wehrlein and Esteban Ocon, the displaced Gutierrez and Sauber's Felipe Nasr.

• Kevin Magnussen (Picture courtesy of Renault Sport Formula One)

Renault boss looks to 2017

AHEAD of the final two races of 2016, Renault team principal Fred Vasseur has spoken of his expectations for 2017.

Next year will see a whole host of rule changes including fatter rear tyres and wider front and rear wings to increase downforce, expected to make the cars about five seconds a lap faster.

Renault has been putting much of its focus on 2017, having had a limited impact on its 2016 car due to the late takeover of Lotus at the end of last year.

Vasseur said: "2017 is a big challenge, we have a new technical challenge with the changed regulations and it will be the first car we produce under our new regime.

"There is a big unknown for next year as everyone is creating their new cars in isolation and we won't know how we compare until we hit the track at the first test in Barcelona.

"We can't wait to be out on track for the first day of testing to get a feel of where we are at.

"But, until then, we have the two final races of 2016 and, rest assured, we'll push all the way on track in Brazil and Abu Dhabi."

Millers ground down in defeat at Wimborne

NORTH Leigh's Southern Division 1 campaign continued to falter at the hands of Wimborne on Saturday, despite twice taking the lead in a 3-2 loss.

John Brough's men were flirting with the play-offs a month ago, but after three successive defeats find themselves in 11th place - 10 points off the play-offs.

Visiting Leigh took the lead in the first half through George Seacole and again in the second half via Bradley Gray, hitting back soon after the home side equalised thanks to Luke Holmes on 65 minutes.

But two late Wimborne goals from Toby Holmes and Sam Lanahan piled on the misery for North Leigh.

Wimborne had the better of the opening exchanges.

As the half progressed, Leigh gained more possession and threaten the home goal, with both Seacole and Eric Odhiambo going close before Seacole gave the visitors the lead 10 minutes before half-time.

Wimborne stole the win with a 74th minute penalty and a set-piece goal five minutes later.

North Leigh are back in FA Trophy action on Saturday against Folkestone Invicta.

Oxford Ladies rock bottom after defeat

OXFORD Ladies 1s have fallen to the basement of the South Clubs' Women's Hockey League Division 2 having lost all six of their matches.

Their latest defeat was at the hands of Brighton who left Oxford on Saturday with a 4-1 win and maximum points.

The hosts started the game with aggression and pace, but they had to wait until half way through the first half to have their endeavours rewarded.

Man of the match Floor Timmer received a pass from Ellie Yuill to squeeze the ball past the Brighton keeper from the tightest of angles to give Oxford a half-time lead.

Oxford started the second half giving away possession too cheaply, and Brighton capitalised on this with four goals in 10 minutes.

Oxford Ladies 1s are now rock bottom of the league having scored the least (eight) and conceded the second most (24) in their six defeats so far.

Buckingham Ladies 2s, who have a two-point deduction, overtook Oxford following their 5-4 win against Havant Ladies 1s.

Oxford head to second-placed Teddington 1s on Saturday.

Bristol blast Utd Women to heaviest league defeat

By George Welch

OXFORD United Women suffered their heaviest league defeat as their campaign ended on a whimper at home to Bristol City on Sunday.

An own goal and braces from Claire Emslie and Millie Farrow overcame the U's in a 5-0 defeat at Tilsley Park as the FA WSL 2 season came to a close.

Emslie (2), Farrow and an Demi Lambourne own goal gave the hosts a resounding 4-0 lead at half time and, although Oxford improved after the break, they could not prevent Farrow netting a fifth late on.

The Robins arrived in Abingdon needing to win by six goals to snatch the league title from Yeovil's grasp and they took the lead on 12 minutes when Emslie was given space on the edge of the area and unleashed a low strike into the bottom corner.

She could have doubled the lead immediately afterwards with a powerful effort from the edge of the area, but goalkeeper Lambourne beat it away.

However, Bristol grabbed their second with just over half an hour played when Lambourne reacted late to push a looping ball into her own net.

Just moments later, it was three as Jodie Brett raced away up the right flank before picking out the unmarked Emslie to nod in at the back post.

Matters got worse four minutes into first-half stoppage time as Bristol added a fourth when Emslie crossed for Farrow to head home from close range.

United settled in the second half and managed to restrict the visitors' chances.

When City substitute Olivia Fergusson was given a glimpse of goal after being left unmarked at the back post, she was unable to turn it in from close range.

United's best chance of the match fell to top scorer Ini Umotong when Bristol goalkeeper Caitlin Leach was caught in possession, but the striker was unable to scramble a shot off and when she eventually recycled it to captain Kat Nutman, her effort was blocked.

The visitors got their fifth goal eight minutes from time when Farrow was given free rein to dart through the centre of the Oxford defence before burying a shot in the top corner.

The thrashing means the U's finished second bottom but there is no relegation from the WSL 2.

• *Bristol City Women celebrate their 5-0 win over Oxford United Women with promotion to WSL 1 (picture courtesy of @bristolcitywfc)*

Eddie reflects on form

EDDIE Pepperell has been in reflective mood as he prepares for his last chance to save his European Tour card.

The Frilford Heath golfer will compete in Qualifying School on Saturday after a disastrous second round at the Portugal Masters last month cost the Abingdon man his place on the European Tour.

Sitting on the cut line, a double bogey on his final hole meant he missed out on progressing to the weekend by two shots.

It meant he finished the season 114th in the European Tour's Race to Dubai standings, just shy of the top 110 who automatically retain their tour cards.

He said the shock of what happened in Portugal was not something he was expecting, even though the result capped a poor run of form after missing the cut in seven of his last eight tournaments.

The 25-year-old will go straight into the final stage of Q School, which takes place at the PGA Catalunya Resort near Barcelona from Saturday to Thursday next week.

Posting on his blog, he said: "Unfortunately, 2016 has been the year I came to the realisation I don't love this game the way I used to.

"I love the challenge of getting better, and I really enjoy being in the hunt on Sunday.

"That makes me feel alive. But golf has shown me it's darker, more insidious side this year."

Pepperell admitted that his struggles this season has impacted him personally.

He said: "For me, 2016 is full of lessons. I've worked tirelessly this year on the range, especially since June, and yet I hit it worse on the course.

"I've learnt that no matter how good you feel in practice, that sense of perfection gets thrown out of the window once you enter the realms of competition – logically this game doesn't make much sense.

"I never envisaged that struggling on the course with my golf would have the impact it did on my mood. My quality of life waned as my golf deteriorated gradually and became more frustrating."

• *Eddie Pepperell*

Winters hits the winner as City pick up three points on the road

• *City's Tom Winters (picture by Michael Allen)*

OXFORD City exploited Hampton and Richmond's poor home record to pick up a valuable three points on their National League South travels with a 1-0 win.

Tom Winters fired home from a tight angle shortly after the restart to help the Hoops on their way to only their fourth win of the season.

Hampton, who had lost three of their previous home league matches, created the early chances, with the best being Brendan Kiernan's overhead kick on 15 minutes, which looped into the air and came down on top of the bar.

Even Jamal Lowe, who has seven to his name so far this season and has secured a January move to League Two side Portsmouth, was misfiring.

His cross-shot on 40 minutes was safely dealt with by Jack Stevens before a Hampton player could get near it.

Just before the break, City finally forced a save from Hampton keeper Aaron Howe, but Jonny Giles' attempt was no trouble for him as he reached to push the ball wide.

Early in the second half though, Oxford took advantage of the Hampton defence to take the lead.

Mike Fondop and Jefferson Louis broke forward quickly and a cross-field pass, which looked to be misplaced and wasted, found its way to Winters on the left-hand side of the box who fired beyond Howe from a tight angle.

With 20 minute to go, Lowe looked to have equalised for the hosts as he forced the ball into the net, but it was immediately disallowed for a push on Josh Ashby.

Late on, a Jay Gasson header was cleared off the line by James Roberts, as Justin Merritt's side held out for their second clean sheet in three games.

Yellows through despite loss in record penalty shootout

United seal cup progress

By George Welch

OXFORD United have secured their passage through to the knockout stages of the Checkatrade Trophy, despite being beaten in the longest penalty shootout in English football history.

Michael Appleton's side cemented their place in the round of 32 with a point in a 1-1 draw with a Chelsea development team on Tuesday.

In the re-formatted Football League Trophy, draws are settled by a shootout with the winners receiving an extra point.

Despite the penalties being redundant with the point taking Oxford through while Chelsea were already knocked out, a total of 34 penalties were taken as Chelsea came out victorious in a 13-12 win.

Wes Thomas, who failed to score both his shootout efforts, missed the decisive 34th penalty.

Chris Maguire (twice), Kane Hemmings (twice), Joe Rothwell (twice), Marvin Johnson (twice), Joe Skarz, Phil Edwards, Curtis Nelson and goalkeeper Simon Eastwood all converted from the spot for the U's. But John Lundstram (twice), Thomas (twice) and Aaron Martin all missed.

A youthful Chelsea side, which boasted the £8m Netherlands international Marco Van Ginkel and the £12m France international Kurt Zouma, grabbed the lead on the cusp of half time through Josi Quintero.

Forward Ike Ugbo set the ball back on the edge of the box and Quintero calmly passed the ball around Lundstram, using him as a shield to hide the ball from the keeper, and into the bottom-right corner. Eastwood had no chance of getting anywhere near it.

But parity was restored at the death when Maguire crossed hard and low to find an unmarked Hemmings who, guided the ball home to score his third goal in two games and send the U's through.

United took 600 fans to Stamford Bridge, where just over 5,500 people witnessed English football's record penalty shootout.

And it was a welcome run out for Ledson, Thomas and Rob Hall who are all back in contention following injury setbacks.

For the latter, it was his first Oxford United appearance since re-joining the club over the summer and his first competitive appearance since rupturing cruciate knee ligaments in April.

The penalty defeat meant Oxford finished second in their group but still progressed into today's draw .

Of the 14 Premier League and Championship academy teams, six are through to the next round while seven have been knocked out and one was still to be decided last night.

• *Kane Hemmings, pictured against Peterborough in August, pulled Oxford level against Chelsea (Picture by Steve Daniels)*

Nelson tribunal 'well above budget'

OXFORD United chairman Darryl Eales said he is surprised by the amount the club have to pay after a tribunal for centre back Curtis Nelson was finally concluded this week.

Former Plymouth Argyle captain Nelson, 23, signed for the U's over the summer on a two-year contract.

Because he is under 24, the Devon side are entitled to compensation, but the two clubs failed to agree on a figure.

It was confirmed on Tuesday at a tribunal of the Professional Football Compensation Committee in London that United must pay Plymouth an initial £200,000, rising to £280,000 subject to appearances.

Mr Eales said: "The figure is significantly higher than our initial expectation.

"We respect the committee's decision but Plymouth have seemingly benefited from the lack of clarity of how the 'youth compensation' regulations are applied. This is a huge amount of money for a club such as ourselves and well above the amount budgeted.

"Curtis is a player with a huge potential which I am sure will be realised under Michael [Appleton]'s tutelage."

Nelson, who has made five appearances for the U's so far this season played 248 times for the Home Park club.

Railwaymen back on track

DIDCOT Town made it back-to-back wins for the first time this season as a Declan Benjamin strike 10 minutes from time secured a 3-2 win at Slimbridge on Saturday.

Diddy travelled to Slimbridge with a team that saw two changes to the side that won against Totton by the same scoreline the previous week as Sam Barder returned to the starting XI and Kieran Beesley came in for the suspended Leigh Bedwell.

The first half saw a plethora of chances from both sides, with breaking runs from Slimbridge and Didcot.

Louis Joyce, Ben Whitehead and Jordan Graham all cursed their luck when they struck the woodwork for the Railwaymen as shots rained down on the Slimbridge goal.

But the Swans were the first to find the back of the net when Lee Smith's header beat Beesley at the near post on 22 minutes.

And this made way for a goal rush with three further goals before the break.

It did not take long for Diddy to respond with an equaliser on the half-hour mark when Whitehead coolly slotted home.

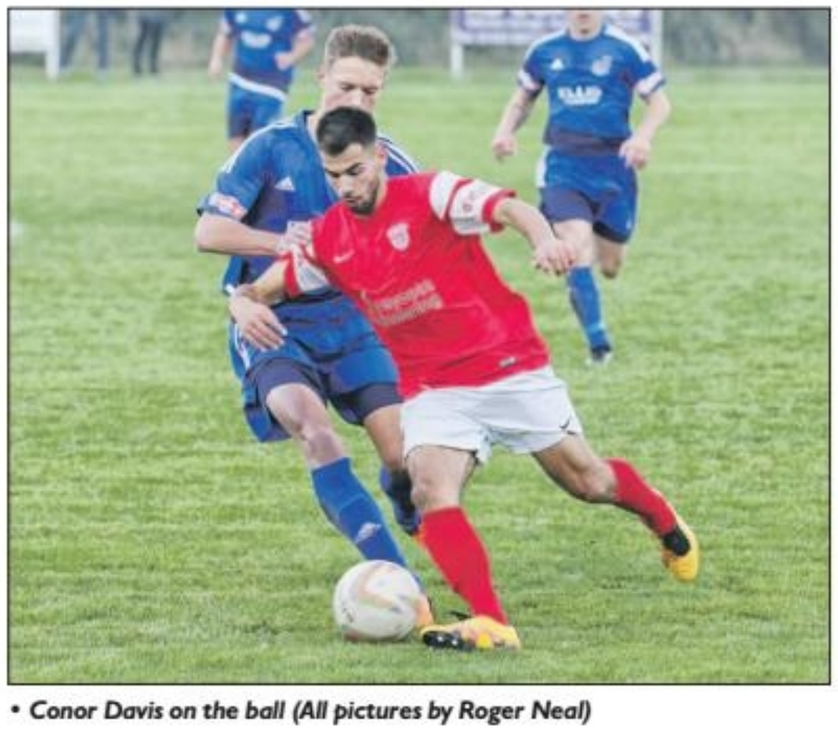
A penalty was awarded to Slimbridge two minutes later when the referee deemed that Graham had handled the ball – Adam Mace stepped up to give the Swans the lead - but the scoring wasn't over yet.

Didcot continued to press the hosts' defence and great combination play between Whitehead and James Organ saw the left back fire home a sweet strike on his weaker right foot on 36 minutes to make it 2-2 at the break.

It was the defender's first Diddy goal in his 129th appearance.

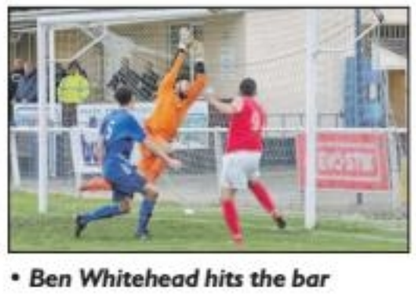
Throughout the second half Slimbridge pressed for the winner with the majority of the half seeing Didcot on the back foot.

But it was Didcot who scored the winner with 10 minutes remaining when Declan Benjamin's 16-yard strike found the back of the net.



• *Conor Davis on the ball (All pictures by Roger Neal)*

• *Didcot celebrate with James Organ, who scored his first Didcot goal in his 129th appearance*



• *Ben Whitehead hits the bar*

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Yellows face another non-league team after win over Merstham

Utd hit five to avoid slip-up in cup clash

By George Welch

OXFORD United avoided the possibility of an embarrassing FA Cup 1st Round exit when they overcame seventh-tier Surrey team Merstham 5-0.

A number of fringe players impressed the U's head coach Michael Appleton in what was a potential banana skin of a game against the team of part-timers in front of TV cameras on Saturday.

Goals from Alex MacDonald, Josh Ruffels, Kane Hemmings (2) and Tyler Roberts, who have all struggled to secure regular first team football, ensured there was no upset at the Moatside stadium.

Only Simon Eastwood, Chey Dunkley, Marvin Johnson and Liam Sercombe survived Appleton's changes from his side's home defeat to Millwall the previous weekend as players such as Hemmings, Ryan Taylor and Ruffels were given an opportunity to shine.

The League One team made a positive start by showing neat touches and possession that exemplified their 94-place advantage over their rivals.

And the U's made their dominance pay on 12 minutes when MacDonald thumped a free kick from just outside the area into the top left corner to register his first U's goal since an EFL Trophy tie against Exeter in August.

Merstham nearly defied the odds to level the scores on 20 minutes when top scorer Dan Bennett was denied by a fine goal-line block by defender Aaron Martin.

United went up the other end where Taylor should have doubled the visitors' lead, but Merstham goalkeeper Phil Wilson kept out the target man's effort with his face.

Wilson, who supports Oxford as a former U's youth team player, then denied defender Dunkley on 25 minutes with a fine fingertip save.

In an entertaining affair, United continued to dominate and the U's doubled their advantage on the cusp of half-time when a Johnson cross found an unmarked Ruffels, who rifled in a bullet header from close range to score his first goal since February 2014.

Merstham held their own for large spells of the second half and threatened to claw their way back into the match with substitute Dan Hector and captain Tommy Kavanagh both going close.

But the game was put beyond doubt just after the hour through a quick-fire double from Hemmings and Roberts.

Former Dundee striker Hemmings slotted home a one-on-one on 62 minutes before West Brom loanee Roberts converted a minute later from a tight angle.

Merstham were denied a consolation when Bennett had a goal ruled out for offside before the U's added a fifth when Hemmings tapped home on 90 minutes.

The U's donated their share of the gate receipts to the non-league club to the tune of about £20,000

United will face National League side Macclesfield in the FA Cup 2nd Round following Monday night's draw. The provisional date for the match is Saturday, December 3.

• *Josh Ruffels celebrates scoring Oxford's second goal (Picture by Steve Daniels)*

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